MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 DECEMBER 1981

Israel

Multinational Force Declaration Approved -- According to Jerusalem radio, the Cabinet approved the amended draft of the joint U.S.-Israeli declaration on European participation in the Multinational Force and Observers. The radio added that the declaration will be delivered to the foreign ministers of the United Kingdom, France, Italy and the Netherlands and that they will be asked to announce their agreement to the principles contained in it.

Debate, Comment on Strategic Cooperation -- The Knesset rejected by 57 to 53 the four no-confidence motions submitted after the signing of the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation, Jerusalem radio reported. It added, however, that opposition and National Religious Party representatives have prepared a private draft resolution that would compel the government to obtain Knesset approval for the memorandum. The radio relayed live portions of the Knesset debate on the motions, including a speech by Alignment MK Abba Eban in which he criticized the specific reference to the Soviet Union in the memorandum because of the harm this might cause to Soviet-Israeli relations, charged that Israel has committed itself to providing military aid to the United States outside the context of Israeli security and claimed that the memorandum takes no account of the real danger to Israel, an attack by an Arab country. Defending the memorandum, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon asserted that it provides an answer to the danger that threatens Israel's existence -- the Soviet threat. He asked rhetorically if any sensible person could imagine that Arab forces present the only threat to Israel. Sharon also emphasized that the principle of reciprocity is an important part of the memorandum and that it is aimed at deterrence rather than at cooperation in war.

Citing informed sources, HA'ARETZ claimed that the memorandum contains a secret section in which the United States undertakes to purchase specific quantities of Israeli goods and to store U.S. equipment in Israel and which mentions Israel's right to defend its security by any legitimate means. However, in a lengthy interview on the memorandum broadcast by Jerusalem television, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said he knew nothing about such a secret section.

Arab Reaction to U.S.-Israeli Memorandum

Commenting on the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation, the Libyan news agency JANA charged that it meets all Israel's demands for the "consecration" of its occupation and gives the United States a new springboard for aggression against the Arab nations. Cairo radio reviewed an AL-AHRAM editorial that said the U.S. failure to grant all Israel's wishes in the agreement provides a sort of balance that will prevent the United States from being seen by the Arabs as completely aligned with Israel. However, the editorial added that certain parties might view the agreement as justification for further rapprochement with the Soviet Union.

The Saudi newspaper AL-MADINAH, quoted by SPA, asserted that the agreement will encourage the Soviet Union to intervene in the area by signing military pacts with some Arab states and branded it an "undeclared aggression" against the Arabs. SPA noted that another Saudi paper, AN-NADWAH, said the memorandum shows U.S. support for Zionist expansion and aggression and will weaken the forces of moderation in the area.

Amman radio reviewed an editorial in AD-DUSTUR, which asserted that the agreement is a serious development that will crush all hopes for achieving peace and stability in the Middle East. According to AD-DUSTUR, the U.S. insistence that the memorandum is directed not against the Arabs but against the Soviet Union only distracts attention from the real danger to the region, Israel. An editorial in the Kuwait paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM claimed that despite the mention of the Soviet Union in the memorandum, the agreement is directed against the Arabs alone. The paper added that the aim is to push some Arab states toward Moscow, thus perpetuating Arab disunity.

Syria

Habib Visit -- Noting that President Hafiz al-Asad received U.S. special envoy Philip Habib during the afternoon, Damascus radio said their discussion focused on the situation in Lebanon and efforts to achieve national accord there. The radio also said Habib gave Al-Asad a message of condolences from President Ronald Reagan for the recent Damascus bomb blast.

Bomb Blast Arrests -- Damascus radio reported the arrest of all persons who had "organizational links" with the perpetrator of the 29 November Damascus bomb blast, who has now been identified. The radio also reported that Ba'th Party and National Progressive Front leaders headed a march in the capital condemning the bombing. According to SANA, the death toll has now risen to 81.

Jordan

In an interview with PETRA-JNA carried by Amman television, King Husayn denied that the Fes summit was a setback, terming the outcome "sound," although stressing that Arab leaders who failed to attend the summit conference will be responsible for the consequences of the postponement. Husayn explained that during the summit Saudi Arabia had tried to withdraw its peace plan from the agenda because it was offended by the "campaign of defamation and distortion" waged against the plan by some of the Arab foreign ministers. The king opined that it was natural for Saudi Arabia to be offended by such a campaign, which came from its brothers as well as its enemies, and he urged Arab leaders with grievances against each other to air them at the summit in order to preserve Arab solidarity.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Reporting further heavy fighting in the Susangerd area, an Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by Baghdad radio claimed that between 29 November and 2 December the Iranians lost over 2,400 dead and 104 tanks destroyed. The communique also said Iraqi planes raided Ahvaz airport and shot down three Iranian Phantoms in a dogfight over the city. According to a subsequent INA report, three Iranian transport planes were destroyed in the raid.

An Iranian Armed Forces communique broadcast by Tehran radio noted Iraqi attempts to halt the Iranian advance in Khuzestan but claimed that the Iraqi counteroffensives have failed and that the Iranians have maintained control of newly captured areas. The communique asserted that the Iraqis suffered at least 1,500 casualties in recent operations around Bostan and that they lost 101 tanks and personnel carriers. It also claimed that Iranian aircraft downed nine Iraqi planes on 2 December, including three in a dogfight near Ahvaz. According to a related Tehran radio report, two of the downed Iraqi planes were Mirages. In its reportage on fighting in other areas, the Iranian communique said Iranian Katyusha rocket fire destroyed an Iraqi missile base in the southern sector.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PAPER ASKS WHAT HABIB'S MISSION HAS TO OFFER

JN021236 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1520 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] American Middle East envoy Philip Habib is in Damascus today after a short visit to Lebanon. FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH featured an article on the Habib visit and American plans in the region. Philip Habib's return to the Middle East is a continuation of the mission which started with the Zahlah crisis and was annulled during the July Israeli-Palestinian events.

The two developments were a result of the new United States administration's maneuvers in the Middle East.

It is true that Habib's visit was planned prior to the Fes summit. However, it has been intentionally postponed to coicide with the aftermath of the summit and to comply with the predrawn American administration's plans. If Habib's current visit is intended to defuse the explosive situation in the Middle East, then what happened at Fes can be considered to cast a shadow on his mission. If what is required of Habib's visit is, regarding the Syrian missiles, the eventual withdrawal of these missiles, the open question is: What are the Americans offering in exchange? Also if what is required on the cease-fire front is the maintenance of the cease-fire in southern Lebanon, what does the United States offer in exchange to the PLO in its capacity as one of the parties abiding by the cease-fire?

To further clarify the matter, if the United States is an intermediary capable of filling the void and this is what Habib's mission specifically means; can the United States carry out this role? Habib's past two so-called miracles have been since turned into obstacles. This visit and its outcome is likely to have the same fate.

FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE REVIEWS SITUATION 2 DEC

NC031150 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee last night met in the presence of Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] as part of its current open session. The committee discussed the tense situation in southern Lebanon and the continuous Zionist threats against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. The committee also reviewed the upsurge of our steadfast people in the occupied territory.

The Central Committee discussed measures to confront the Zionist plot to set up the civil administration in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to implement the autonomy plot. It also discussed the current debate at the United Nations regarding the Palestine and the Middle East questions.

The committee also reviewed the situation in the Arab region in light of the Fes summit results as well as several other issues and subjects.

Condemns Damascus Explosion

NC030800 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee has sent a cable to President Hafiz al-Asad condemning the heinous criminal explosion that was carried out by criminal hands against the sons of our steadfast Syrian people last Sunday. The following is the text of the cable:

His Excellency, Brother President Hafiz al-Asad: Greetings of the revolution. The Fatah Central Committee, during its meeting Wednesday evening, 2 December, discussed the heinous criminal act that was carried out by criminal hands on Sunday and killed innocent citizens of our steadfast struggling people in fraternal Syria. The Fatah Central Committee condemns this criminal deed and the sinful hands that carried it out. In the name of our people, revolution and fighters, the Fatah Central Committee offers Your Excellency, the heroic Syrian people and the relatives of the killed and injured, sincere condolences over this painful deed, wishing for God to protect Syria from evil so that we can together continue to confront the plots of imperialism, Zionism and their agents in the area aimed at striking at the bastions of our nation's struggle and steadfastness. It is a revolution until victory.

FARUQ QADDUMI ADDRESSES UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NC031000 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has addressed the United Nations, warning against the dangers that could result from the strategic alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv and from the U.S. presence in the Arab area and adjacent regions. He stressed that the strategic alliance and U.S. presence will increase the gravity of the threats of a major war in the area.

In his address at the UN General Assembly, now discussing the Palestinian question, Qaddumi said Israeli transigence could not have been demonstrated had it not been for the unlimited U.S. support and aid for the Zionist entity. He added: The Arab nation is facing only one danger -- the Zionist threat that has become one of the elements of the U.S.-Zionist alliance. Qaddumi further said: The policy the Reagan administration is pursuing is, in fact, not new. The Arab nation will reject it as well as foreign bases and alliances. He pointed out that Israel rejects any initiative from both the East and West that calls for the establishment of peace based on justice and international agreement.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO CAMEROON -- Two agreements were signed today in Jidda between the Islamic Development Bank and Cameroon. According to the first agreement, the bank will extend a loan of 4.93 million Islamic dinars ($6 milllion) to help in the construction of (Dwala Ya Windi) road. This loan will be paid back in 20 years. Under the second agreement a letter of credit of 5 million Islamic dinars (6.5 million) will be presented to the National Institution for Development in Cameroon so the latter can contribute, on the bank's behalf, capital for industrial projects. [Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Dec 81 GF]

GULF AFFAIRS

GULF MILITARY GROUP TO INSPECT STRAIT OF HORMUZ

PM030849 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Nov 81 p 1

[Gulf Bureau report]

[Text] ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from official sources in the Omani capital that a high-level Gulf military delegation will pay a visit later this week to the Sultanate of Oman that will last several days. The delegation will visit the Strait of Hormuz and will inspect the existing military installations in the area in order to find out what the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] can provide in order to protect the area against any military threat under the GCC military strategy to protect the council member states by providing an air defense network.

The Gulf military delegation's visit is in accordance with the recommendation of the second Gulf summit, recently held in Riyadh. Similar visits by Gulf military personnel are to take place to other Gulf states for the same purpose.

OMAN

UK'S HEARD ARRIVES IN MUSCAT FOR TALKS

GF021631 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1320 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Muscat, 2 Dec (WAKH) -- Douglas Heard, British minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Muscat today for an official visit of serveral days to the Sultanate of Oman. The British minister will hold talks with Omani officials on the situation in the Middle East in general and the Gulf region in particular and also on bilateral relations.

SULTAN RECEIVES HEARD, PAKISTANI MINISTER

GF021845 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1826 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Muscat, 2 Dec (WAKH) -- Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman received Douglas Heard, British minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, in Muscat today. The meeting was attended by Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs.

The sultan also received Pakistani Information Minister Raja Zafarul Haq, who is visiting the Sultanate today. The meeting, during which bilateral relations and means to bolster them were discussed, was attended by Omani Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas.

PDRY

YAR'S SALIH, 'ALI NASIR CONTINUE TALKS IN ADEN

JN021757 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council and of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, held a meeting in Aden at noon today attended by the members of the two delegations to the talks.

The discussion centered on the topics that [words indistinct] connected to [words indistinct] between the leaders of the two parts of the homeland and the adoption of more measures toward restoring Yemeni unity in addition to the Arab situation and [word indistinct].

Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council and of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, and their accompanying delegations returned to Aden at noon today at the end of their 24-hour visit to Saywun in Hadramawt Governorate.

San'a' on Salih's Activities

JN012102 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Excerpt] A meeting was held between the delegations of the two parts of the homeland this evening in the city of Saywun in Hadramawt Governorate in the southern part of the homeland. The meeting was chaired by Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland.

The two sides discussed issues that concern the Yemeni people and the unity steps between the two parts of the homeland.

The two sides also discussed current Arab and international conditions.

Both leaders attended a big popular rally which was held this afternoon in the city of Saywun on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the independence of the southern part of the homeland and on the occasion of President Salih's visit.

Agreement Signed

EA022046 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Summary] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih signed an agreement this evening in Aden for developing cooperation and coordination between the two parts of Yemen, after holding the final session of discussions between the two sides this afternoon.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his delegation left for home this evening.

SAUDI ARABIA

FAHD BRIEFS CABINET ON FES SUMMIT, PEACE PLAN

LD021308 Riyadh SPA in English 1218 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 2 Dec (SPA) -- Crown Prince Fahd has briefed last night the Council of Ministers regularly weekly meeting on political situation in the Middle East and the outcome of 12th Arab heads of state summit in Fes (Morocco), acting Information Minister Shaykh Husayn al-Mansuri, the communications minister, said.

Prince Fahd told the council that the proposed Saudi Arabian peace plan "is still on the agenda of the Arab summit conference."

Prince Fahd said that the plan was no longer a Saudi one, but "has entered the framework of the summit conference and that Saudi Arabia had nothing to do with it that varied from unanimous Arab opinion."

Prince Fahd praised the wisdom of King Hassan of Morocco in chairing the conference, Shaykh al-Mansuri said.

Crown Prince Fahd described his bilateral talks with the Arab leaders in Fes as "positive", he added.

Prince Fahd said Saudi Arabian policy, in accordance with the directive of HM King Khalid, is devoted to serving the Palestinian question and the realisation of Arab solidarity.

Prince Fahd said, "These two questions are the most important concerns to us and we shall continue to work towards them, hand in hand with Arab brothers, in the service of Arab and Islamic causes now and in future."

ISRAELI CLAIM OF SPLIT IN ARAB RANKS REJECTED

LD021444 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Israeli enemy, which continues to wager on the belief that the conflict in the Arab nation is one of its main weapons in its war with the Arabs, is trying at present to express its pleasure, in its own way, at what it describes as the occurrence of further cracks in the wall of Arab solidarity after the suspension of the Fes Arab summit. It is natural for this to be the sentiment of the enemy and its aspiration because the opposite would have been anomalous in view of the enemy's historical record in turning facts upside down and repeating fabrications against the Arab nation.

The claim by the Israeli enemy that after the Fes summit the Arabs are now at a crossroad with each group going in a different direction, is rejected, its objective being to (?express) Israeli satisfaction at the continued split in views and attitudes in the Arab nation. What happened at Fes was in fact nothing but the Arab nation's conscious and sincere stance in confronting its apparent and invisible enemy on the basis that the acute and fierce nature of the confrontation required a great concentration of efforts and closing of ranks. It was natural for this to be the main characteristic of the Fes summit because there is no louder voice than that of reason. From this premise came the summit conference's support for the Saudi peace initiative and its consideration as an Arab initiative which required careful study. Even when His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz demanded the withdrawal of the initiative, if its submission were to cause a split in views among the participants, the categorical confirmation came, without any objection, of the need to keep it after it had become an Arab initiative. This necessarily means that the discussion of fateful Arab issues is not a controversial matter. On the contrary, this confirms that the fateful issues and foremost the Palestine problem are not easy issues to be rashly discussed and judged. For all these considerations the Saudi initiative was not, as claimed, the reason for what Tel Aviv has imagined to be the point of dispute at the Fes summit. The proof lies in the unanimous Arab decision to consider the Saudi initiative an Arab plan, one needing careful consideration, and to keep it on the agenda of the Arab summit.

This is naturally what the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had called for from the moment it had submitted its initiative -- for the brothers to discuss and study the plan because the Kingdom with all its weight in the Arab and international arenas does not feel that it is the owner of the first and final opinion concerning the fateful Arab issues, foremost of all the cause of the Palestinian people. The Arab nation, which completely trusts the intentions and objectives of the Saudi leadership, understands that the Kingdom did not, as His Royal Highness Amir Fahd has repeatedly said, seek to impose its opinion or adopt its own attitude.

Rather the exchange of opinions and consultations with the brothers in the same situation is the best framework to reach a formula acceptable to the whole Arab nation. The Kingdom deals with the Arab nation from the premise of solidarity and the one objective, the Palestinian people's recovery of its rights. The confirmation by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd that the Kingdom's policy as directed by His Majesty King Khalid placed in the forefront of its interests two issues -- serving the Palestinian problem and achieving Arab solidarity -- is in complete harmony with the aspirations and expectations that the Arab nation pins on this country, leadership and people. This is the secret that lies behind the Israeli enemy's campaigns of casting doubts on the Kingdom because it understands the effectiveness, weight and influence of the Saudi policy, which deals with the facts of the matter with all the sincerity and loyalty.

PRESS ON U.S.-ISRAELI AGREEMENT, FES SUMMIT

LD021300 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Dec (SPA) -- Crown Prince Fahd's message to the chairman of the U.N. committee on the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, dangers emanating from the strategic military alliance between Israel and U.S. and the wise decision of the Arab leaders to postpone the Fes Arab summit appeared for editorial comments in today's newspapers.

'UKAZ newspaper said Crown Prince Fahd's message to the committee, once again emphasised Kingdom's firm policy and strong determination to support the Palestinian cause for the restoration of their legitimate rights and the establishment of an independent Palestine state.

The paper noted Prince Fahd has very clearly highlighted in his message that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands, at the foremost of which is the Arab Jerusalem, and the granting of self-determination to the Palestinian people.

Meanwhile, AL-JAZIRAH newspaper observed that Kingdom's eight-point peace plan was converted into an Arab plan at the 12th Arab summit, since all the participants refused to withdraw it from the agenda. On the repeated requests from all, Prince Fahd agreed to keep it on the agenda for consultations and more information on the Arabs prime issue.

The paper felt the eight-point blueprint will provide a golden chance to the Arabs for seeking a just solution for the Palestinian issue and the restoration of their legitimate rights and the establishment (?of an independent) Palestine state.

Dealing with the same subject, AL-YAWM newspaper commented the insistence of the participants not to withdraw the Kindom peace plan, and their preference to postpone the summit for more consultations among all the Arab leaders and their agreement to discuss the plan, without any changes or amendments have clearly shown the viability and practicality of the plan as an Arab-oriented initiative for seeking peace and stability in the region.

Meanwhile AL-MADINAH, AL-BILAD and AN-NADWAH newspapers have warned that the strategic cooperation between Israel and U.S. will deteriorate the situation in the region and invite Soviet intervention in the area.

AL-MADINAH said the accord is a prelude to a dangerous arms race in the region and will provide a U.S.-sponsored official invitation to Soviet Union to intervene in the affairs of the Middle East with signing of similar military pacts with some of the states of area.

AL-MADINAH branched the Zionist-American military pact as an undeclared aggression against the Arabs. The paper called on all Arab and Moslem countries to solidify their unity and formulate defensive measures before their rights and lands are being usurped by the Zionist enemy.

AL-BILAD urged the Arab nations to confront the challenges emanating from the military alliance of U.S. and Israel and heal their differences within the framework of Arab and Islamic solidarity, unity and consensus. The paper called on for the working out a comprehensive plan with a far-sighted vision to ensure justice and peace in the region.

Commenting on the same subject, AN-NADWAH said Washington is fully mistaken if the Reagan administration has false presumptions that its vital interests can be ensured by signing a strategic cooperation accord with Israwl. "This strange American thinking is in contrast with the interest of the Arabs, the owner of the region," the paper said.

AN-NADWAH said "the open U.S. hostility will bear dangerous consequences, since it clearly means that Washington is backing the Zionist expansion and aggression through documents and facts."

AN-NADWAH said Israel has signed this agreement to realise its aggressive designs against the Arabs. "Washington should realise the accord, which backs the Israeli intrasigence and aggressions, will be a painful blow to all attempts. It will also weaken all voices calling for moderation," the paper added.

CONTRACT FOR LAUNCHING ARAB SATELLITE SIGNED

LD021238 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1135 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 2 Dec (SPA) -- Director General of the Arab Space Communication -- an organization of the Arab League -- Dr 'Ali al-Mashshat today signed a contract at the organization headquarters in Riyadh with engineer Frederic D'Allest, space director of Ariane, for launching the first Arab satellite. The signing was attended by Dr Alwai Darwish Kayyal, minister of posts, telephones and telegraph, in his capacity as the resident minister; Faysal Ahmad Zaydan, under-secretary of the Ministry Posts, Telephones and Telegraph and chairman of the organization Board, and Michel Camille Drumetz, French ambassador to the Kingom.

After the signing of the contract, Dr Alwai Darwish Kayyal made a speech in which he praised the efforts of officials of the organization to implement this project. He said a contract on the Arab satellite project was signed with the French company Aerospatiale 6 months ago at a cost of $134 million, and today a contract was signed for the means of launching this satellite with an Ariane rocket. He noted the great importance of this project, particularly with regard to the unification of telecommunications between the Arab states and the unificatiin of these states' news bulletins, newscasts and communications.

He also spoke about the economic, social and cultural benefits of the project and in the field of television relay, telephone, telex and other means of telecommunication.

He pointed out that the Kingdom's share in the project amounts to 26 percent of the total cost -- the biggest share in the organization -- while the rest is shared by the other 21 Arab countries. He said Riyadh has been chosen to be the headquarters of the organization and the Kingdom is to be the headquarters of the main control station.

He said the Kingdom has allocated land for the Arab Space Communication organization to build its headquarters, houses for its employees and the main control station.

Dr 'Ali al-Mushshat stated that the organization will have three satellites -- two in space and the third to be stored on the ground in reserve. He added that it is expected that the first Arab satellite will be launched, according to the contract signed today, in February 1984 and that the second will be launched in the middle of 1984. He said that the organization is currently putting the last touches to the contract of launching the second satellite by the space shuttle.

He announced that the cost of launching the satellite will be about $23 million on the Ariane dual-system.

He pointed out that the Arabsat space communication network will fill the requirements of the Arab states in the field of space communications in the various scientific, cultural, social and commercial spheres. He added that it is the first Arab project in which all Arab states are participating and that it is for serving the Arab nation. He pointed out that the center of the main control network will be in Riyadh while the supporting control station will be in Tunis.

DEFENSE MINISTER LEAVES FOR PAKISTAN 1 DEC

GF010725 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of defense and aviation, left Riyadh at 0820 today for Islamabad on an official visit to Pakistan that will last several days on invitation from Pakistani President General Ziaul Haq.

During his visit, his highness will hold talks with the Pakistani president and senior Pakistani officials on joint cooperation in all fields.

UAE

SOMALI PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI 30 NOV

GF010637 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1910 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Nov (WAKH) -- Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre today arrived in Abu Dhabi from Cairo on a 2-day visit to the UAE. He was received by UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, heir apparent and Deputy Supreme Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Deputy Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad and senior military and civilian state officials.

Meets With Zayid

GF011054 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Dec (WAKH) -- A meeting was held in Abu Dhabi this morning between UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre.

The meeting was attended on behalf of the UAE by Surur ibn Muhammad, the president's representative; Rashid 'Abdallah, the minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Ali ash-Shurafa, director of the president's office; and Darwish al-Mansuri, the UAE ambassador in Mogadiscio.

On behalf of the Somali side, the meeting was attended by members of the revolution's Supreme Council Ahmed Mahmud and Mohamed Omar (Jis), and the Somali envoy to the UAE, Hajj Abdullah Abdulrahman.

The Somali president arrived in Abu Dhabi yesterday evening on a visit to the UAE that will last several days.

CAIRO DAILY SEES U.S.-ISRAELI PACT AS BALANCED

NC030925 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 3 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "U.S.-Israeli Cooperation" AL-AHRAM's editorial says that the strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and Israel provides that this cooperation is not aimed against any country or any group of countries in the Middle East, and that it is only for defense purposes to confront Soviet threats to security and peace in the area as well as threats by Soviet-controlled forces from outside the area.

AL-AHRAM says this provision in particular seems to have provoked the indignation of the Israeli opposition. Cooperation was expected to be on a larger scale when the Israeli condition on the Saudi AWACS deal is fulfilled. Cooperation was also expected to include frank handling of any threats to Israel by the Arab countries; as by Israeli standards some of these countries are still considered to be the main enemy. In the absence of such a provision, it was at least expected that the agreement would not be directed specifically at the Soviet Union and its stooges, but would cover cooperation against any offensive in general.

AL-AHRAM points out that in this agreement the United States exercised some restraint on Israel and did not fulfill all its wishes so as not to offend the Arab countries or endanger future opportunities of bolstering peace. In the eyes of the Arabs, this is some sort of balance that would keep the United States away from complete alignment with Israel and adoption of all its standards. This is apparent from the Israeli opposition's stand on the national issue. The opposition views the agreement as lacking certain provisions.

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says that if the conclusion of agreements is a political matter that concerns the countries involved, certain parties might view this agreement as a justification for further rapprochement with the Soviet Union by adding such provisions to the existing friendship and cooperation agreements.

AL-AHRAM: SUMMIT FAILURE DUE TO CONFLICTING FRONTS

NC300830 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 30 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AHRAM comments on the collapse of the recent Arab summit conference in Fes. The paper points out that the collapse of this conference and the Arab comments on it have shown there are three conflicting Arab fronts: the moderates front, the rejectionists front and the beneficiaries front.

The paper says the moderates are those who want to highlight the possibilities of solving the Middle East problem peacefully outside the framework of Camp David or who accept the challenge of an alternative to Camp David. The rejectionists are those who scorn all solutions and alternatives in favor of an Arab dictate to all the parties, even Israel. The beneficiaries are those who favor continuing the crisis without solution to maintain the flow of aid to them.

The paper points out that even without Arab meetings on various levels, these points cannot reach agreement for one simple reason -- they lack a common starting point or a common denominator. Had we been able to foresee that these trends started with the old partition plan -- that is 34 years ago -- we could also have imagined the Palestinian problem remaining unsolved until today.

The paper says that what is required at this stage of inter-Arab fighting is not the submission of advanced plans or the holding of summit meetings which expose the ugly face of Arab policy. What is required is a sound definition of principles and a common basis on which movement could start: Do they want war or peace? If they want peace, can peace be achieved in any other way than negotiations? Will negotiations be better if they are conducted by [the Arabs] themselves or through others? Is it possible to deprive other parties that are directly concerned of participation in the negotiations? Is it better: to negotiate without recognition [of Israel], knowing that the results of the negotiations are bound to lead to recognition?

Concluding its article, the paper affirms that what is required is a return to the basics of political dealings to establish a common language among themselves.

GHALI SPEAKS OF SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIANS

NC272254 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2225 GMT 27 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said that the Camp David accords are the only international document to which Israel is committed concerning the Palestinian people's rights.

In a statement of the newspaper AKHBAR AL-AYWM, to be published in tomorrow, Saturday's edition, on the occasion of the Day of Solidarity With the Palestinian People, which Egypt will celebrate tomorrow, Dr Ghali said: Egypt has offered a great deal for the sake of the Palestinian issue. It believes that sincere work and practical measures are more useful than empty statements and lip service.

Ghali pointed out that Egypt had asked Israel to stop its illegitimate measures against the Palestinians in the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza and it has also asked Israel to respect freedoms, rights and international agreements.

Ghali further pointed out that the Arab governments are demanding the same things Egypt is demanding, but these governments content themselves with these demands in speeches and meetings, while Egypt presents these demands at the negotiating table.

Ghali affirmed that had it not been for Egypt's profound feeling of solidarity with the Palestinian people, we would not have continued with the autonomy talks.

Dr Ghali reaffirmed that Egypt does not speak on behalf of the Palestinians, nor does it claim to be doing so. It is seeking to use the autonomy talks to find suitable conditions for the Palestinians to exercise their rights, express their views and attain their legitimate rights.

UN ENVOY ON SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN'S STRUGGLE

NC022205 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Egyptian chief UN delegate Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has emphasized Egypt's support for the just and legitimate struggle which the Palestinian people are waging to recover their legitimate rights.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today addressed the UN General Assembly at the beginning of its debate on the Palestinian issue. In his speech, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: The Palestinian issue is the key to the Middle East conflict. The just and legitimate struggle which the Palestinian people are waging to recover their legitimate rights is nothing but a part of the international procession which is making headway toward a century pervaded with the principles of freedom, justice and equality.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted that this struggle, which is approved and supported by the free and peace-loving peoples who believe in human dignity, is a revolution against the policies of aggression, occupation, annexation and settlement.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said: Our relationship with the Palestinian people is unbreakable, because it is one of faithful brothers. Egypt will always be in peace just as it was in war, the protective shield of the Palestinian people.

He pointed out that Egypt waged a struggle for the Palestinian people's rights -- in war and peace. Furthermore, the glorious victories of October 1973 crowned Egypt's military glory. Also, the historic initiative of November 1977 peaked political action.

Egypt's chief UN delegate elucidated that the pillars of the solution of the Palestinian issue are represented by the Palestinian people's inalienable and authentic right to determine their own fate without foreign intervention, and to return to their land to set up their independent state in the West Bank, including Arab Jerusalem and the Gaza Sector. This is in addition to the fact that security in the area signifies security for all parties concerned, including the security of the Palestinian people and Israel. Furthermore, the solution resides in rejecting and condeming all the Israeli measures and practices conflicting with international law, the UN Charter and the relevant UN resolutions and the international covenants. This rejection particularly applies to Israel's policies and practices in the West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said: In light of these premises, Egypt signed and committed itself to the framework for peace in the Middle East in 1978 as a first step toward an overall and just solution to the issue from all its perspectives, and as a limited transitional period during which the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 will move out of the control of the Israeli occupation--within the framework of a transitional period which will create an opportunity for the establishment of the transitional system--to the authority and control of the Palestinian people in preparation for the self-determination phase. This latter phase will open an avenue for peaceful coexistence between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples--a coexistence stipulating their reciprocal recognition.

KAMAL HASAN 'ALI INTERVIEW ON MFO, FES SUMMIT

NC251920 CairoMENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) -- In his interview with the Arab television which will be relayed tonight, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that during his recent visit to the Scandinavian countries, they had hinted they might participate in the peacekeeping force in the Sinai. He added that this was achieved when Norway agreed to participate by sending a military commander to head this force.

Mr 'Ali added that the European countries' participation in the peacekeeping force endows this force with an international character, because it reputes any suspicion that Egypt, which is a nonaligned country, is allowing only one country--especially a big power like the United States--to play a role in maintaining peace in the Sinai.

Mr 'Ali added that there will be 57 observers who will be stationed in four posts inside the Sinai on the Egyptian side, because Egypt considers their very presence as representing a UN presence there. He added that their stationing in the Sinai will be useful if the United Nations recognizes the peace process and the Camp David agreements in the future. In such a case, UN participation will be on a continuous basis. He added that the presence of international observers in the Sinai does not contradict the presence of the international peacekeeping forces.

The foreign minister went on to say: The international peacekeeping forces will be stationed in area "G" -- which is adjacent to the Egyptian-Israeli borders. They will also be stationed along the Gulf of Aqaba and, on this basis too, the observers will remain in their posts in area "B".

To a question on a possible European participation as a fourth party in the [autonomy] negotiations, Mr 'Ali said this is possible, especially when the parties concerned reach an agreement on taking the final steps toward an overall peace. In such an event, the whole world will play a role in providing material, military and economic guarantees. He added that all the countries in the world -- including the 10 European countries -- are invited to participate in this and they can act as mediators in pushing the peace process forward.

The foreign minister said: The Camp David agreements have laid the basis for guarantees to both countries and not to just one country. A testimony to this is the demilitarization of area "G". Furthermore, there are about 3 km inside Israel which represent the relative depth between area "C" inside the Egyptian border and area "D" inside the Israeli border.

He added: We hope that, in the near future, there won't be any need for these guarantees as long as normal relations prevail between Israel and Egypt.

To another question on the Venice conference statement, Mr 'Ali said this statement recognizes the right of all parties to live in peace within their borders and it guarantees the rights of the Palestinian people, the situation in Jerusalem and the freedom of access to the holy places there. He added that what was taken by force does not give legal standing to the occupying country and that these points are represented by Europe's policy.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: All the Arab states have welcomed the Venice declaration. Despite the fact that there were reservations by the PLO, Iraq, Algeria and Libya, the position as a whole, compared with Prince Fahd's initiative, contained a great deal of conformity, although there was no congruence in the articles mentioned by Prince Fahd regarding the Venice declaration. Therefore, the European countries tried to put forward specific questions to be answered by all the Arab states and all the parties, including Israel, so that the position of (?danger) regarding the next step would become clear.

He said: Up to now the European states have not crystallized an alternative Venice declaration or Prince Fahd's initiative. All this will not change our stand on Camp David, because it was an agreement signed by the parties and can perpetuate the concept of security and peace to all the parties and realize Palestinian participation in self-determination.

He added: We hope the autonomy talks will achieve a final and acceptable agreement, as President Mubarak had said.

'Ali spoke about Egypt's stand on the Arab summit conference in Fes. He said: The Egyptian initiative and Camp David that resulted from it, and consequently the new Arab idea based on the fact that the peace process is the only way to solve the issue, are two prominent factors in Arab policy. He said the Rabat conference in 1974 agreed that the process of war would be repudiated, that a peaceful solution would be sought and that every Arab state should work as hard as possible toward this end without affecting the other Arab rights.

He said: In the light of this, Egypt adopted a practical course and attained the liberation of the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line in May 1979. And it became apparent to the Arab world that with the process of negotiating and peace, it is possible to liberate the Arab land and to attain the Arab people's legitimate rights anywhere. Next would come the autonomy talks, which are continuing, and when the reality of all this is apparent to the Arab world, it will agree that the peaceful process is the only way to solve the issue.

He said: All that is required from the Fes conference is that it discuss the means to negotiate just and comprehensive peace and solve the other questions. This would come by putting the practical process for these plans on the negotiations table. The other things would be to endorse the principle of mutual and permanent recognition between the PLO and Israel to create the dynamic of peace and a comprehensive solution in the area.

He added: The Fes conference must find a practical and dynamic process for negotiations with the parties concerned, including Israel, so that the questions which are still suspended, namely, the Goland and Lebanon, can be discussed.

Asked if he expects a speedy reconciliation between Egypt and the Arab countries in the Fes conference, Mr 'Ali said: The Fes conference has many topics on its agenda. I do not believe Arab-Egyptian reconciliation means relations will be restored the next day. As I said, we have two main subjects: One is that Egypt's policy is firm and the other stems from the aftermath of the Baghdad summit. Some Arab countries taking part in the Fes conference are still calling for the continuation of the Baghdad summit and its resolutions related to Egypt. I do not think that, given this atmosphere and the differences of opinion inherent in the Fes conference, this can lead to a positive step by the Arab countries -- at this stage at least.

He added: Egypt welcomes the restoration of Arab solidarity -- starting with Saudi Arabia and ending with Southern Yemen. We will welcome any rapprochement, because Egypt has not, for a single day, renounced its Arab commitments. Considering this and Egypt's historical responsibilities and its Arab nationalist affiliation, Egypt is willing for any rapprochement as long as this does not subject its will to tutelage and does not confine its actions or impose on it a certain line. What we do stems from reality and from a position of historical responsibility with regard to Arab and Egyptian interests alike; so, as long as such a rapprochement does not limit Egypt's actions considering its vanguard role in war and peace, we will welcome anything that will not subject Egypt to tutelage and limit Arab Egypt's march.

Mr 'Ali said the strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States does not create any anxiety in Egypt -- particularly since relations between the United States and the Arab countries are strong and excellent.

He added that U.S.-Israeli cooperation might not be as productive as a cooperation between the United States and another Arab country because, until the day peace is established between Israel and the rest of the Arab countries, Israel cannot play any effective role in the strategy related to preventing outside intervention in the region.

At the end of his interview, Mr 'Ali affirmed that the United States is still carrying out its role as a full partner in the peace process in the region in a constructive and effective manner.

COMMUNIQUE: 2,400 KILLED, PHANTOMS DOWNED

JN021748 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Communique No 540 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 2 December]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We did them no wrong, but they were used to doing wrong to themselves. [Koranic verse]

History will record immortal pages for the noble Iraqis interwoven with honor, manhood and loyalty and will record black pages for the racist Persians full of hatred, rancor and ingratitude.

For the sake of our renaissance, the renaissance of the glorious Arab nation, and for the sake of allowing the banner of right and justice to fly high in defense of mankind against its enemies, the grandsons of 'Ali [Muslim Caliph] and Khalid and Al-Qa'qa' [Muslim military commanders] are waging a just war to teach the Khomeyni clique lessons in bravery until it returns to its senses and recognizes our full national and pan-Arab rights.

The outcome of our units' activities last night and today follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. For the 4th day running, our valiant armed forces continued to strike at the collapsing remnants of enemy troops in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, dealing painful blows in ferocious and continuous battles and inflicting large losses in life and equipment. Known losses sustained by the enemy on 29 and 30 November and 1 and 2 December, which were counted by the competent authorities in front of one of our main units, are well over 2,400 killed; a large number of wounded and captured; and 104 tanks, 16 armored personnel carriers, 34 vehicles, 4 guns and 4 excavators destroyed. These losses include those mentioned in our communique No 539. We will give you further details on losses the enemy inflicted by our other units.

B. With valor and firm determination, our valiant eagles continued all of today to attack enemy targets and the enemy's collapsing forces, including armored cars, vehicles and personnel, in the southern sector of the operations theater, inflcting grave losses on them. A dogfight ensued during which three enemy Phantoms were shot down over Ahvaz. The enemy aircraft were seen exploding. All of our aircraft returned safely to base.

C. Our aircraft today raided Ahvaz airport and important military targets, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to well over 2,400 dead and a large number of wounded and captured. Our forces also destroyed 104 tanks, 16 armored personnel carriers, 34 vehicles, 4 guns and 4 excavators and shot down 3 fighter planes.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 81 martyrs.

B. Equipment: 17 tanks, 23 personnel carriers and 11 vehicles of various types damaged.

Transport Planes Destroyed

JN021831 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Dec (INA) -- Iraqi aircraft today destroyed three Iranian transport planes on the ground at the Ahvaz airfield.

The Iraqi Armed Forces issued here tonight another communique saying that Iraqi planes which hit Ahvaz airfield today destroyed and burned three Iranian planes on the ground.

Iraqi fighter planes today shot down three Iranian Phantoms which tried to intercept them in a dogfight over Ahvaz. All of the Iraqi aircraft returned safely to base.

Enemy Losses Pass 3,000

JN031052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1038 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Dec (INA) -- The Iraqi forces intensified their strikes today against the retreating forces of the Iranian enemy in the Khafajiyah region. A local military source has told the INA correspondent in the southern sector of the battlefront that for the 5th consecutive day, the Iraqi forces are inflicting further losses in lives and equipment on the enemy.

The source said that three Iranian enemy aircraft were shot down this morning and that the number of Iranian soldiers killed has risen to more than 3,000. In addition, scores have been wounded or captured, and large numbers of Iranian armor vehicles have been destroyed.

Since Sunday, the Khafajiyah region has been the scene of fierce battles between the Iraqi and Iranian forces during which the Iraqi forces repulsed an Iranian attack and drove the Iranian forces back to new positions inside Iranian territory.

THREE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TO FES SUMMIT

JN232210 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 23 Nov 81

[Text] Fes, 23 Nov (INA) -- Iraq has submitted to the Arab summit conference three draft resolutions: On Arab-U.S. relations, U.S. supply of five nuclear reactors to Israel and the Arab stand toward the Egyptian regime.

In its first draft resolution, Iraq called on the Arab countries to double their cooperation and to coordinate their efforts to stand firmly against U.S. policies and the attempts to implement them. It also called for condemning and denouncing U.S. policies as represented by continuous U.S. backing of Israel, attempts to restore U.S. influence in the region and obtain military bases and facilities in it and U.S. military presence in the region.

In this draft resolution, Iraq called for considering the Palestinian issue the Arabs' fateful issue and the crux of the conflict with the Zionist enemy. It added that the entire Arab nation must remain concerned with it and committed to struggle for it. It also stressed the importance of opposing the Camp David accords and the settlement treaty between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity, as well as the importance of remaining free of the political, economic and other results and repercussions entailed in them.

The Iraqi draft resolution notes with great concern the continuing full U.S. backing of the Zionist entity in all fields, its intensified support for the Camp David accords and its work for the implementation of these accords in favor of the Zionist enemy's interests, desires and aggressive schemes.

The paper [as received] considered the United States' approval of the establishment of strategic cooperation with the Zionist entity an essential development in the U.S. bias toward the Zionist enemy and U.S. commitment to continue supporting the Zionist entity's expansionist and aggressive policy and its continued occupation of the Arab territories and the city of Jerusalem, as well as its usurpation of the Palestinian people's national rights.

It added that such a policy increased the military and political imbalance in the region and turns the region into a hotbed of international dispute, which inflicts the gravest harm on the Arab nation's vital interests and on international security and peace. The paper noted with extreme regret the positive response of some foreign states to the invitation extended to them to participate in the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers -- a response that backs the Camp David accords and facilitates their implementation contrary to the Arab nation's wishes.

The second draft resolution deals with U.S.-Israeli nuclear cooperation, which constitutes a blatant violation of UN Security Council's resolutions and recommentations, the regulations and laws of the International Atomic Energy Agency, international law and the principles of international ethics. This also constitutes a challenge to Arab, Islamic and international public opinions and clearly colludes with Zionist aggression and its expansionist schemes.

This draft resolution calls for informing the United States that the Arab countries pay great attention and give great importance to this issue and it would certainly seriously affect U.S.-Arab relations. The draft resolution calls for asking the United States to end this cooperation to show respect for the world community's opinion and to honor the requirements of security and peace in the region and the entire world.

The draft resolution brings to mind the resolution of the Arab League Council during its Baghdad session last year and the resolution of the council session in Tunis last March, which call on the states that back the Zionist entity and supply it with aid, particularly the United States, to seriously work to end Zionist aggression and to adopt tangible measures to also end their aid to the Zionist entity.

The third draft resolution deals with relations with the Egyptian regime. Relations with any Egyptian Government depend, first and foremost, on the Egyptian Government's stand on Camp David agreements.

The draft resolution explains that, stemming from this understanding, it would be impossible to establish natural relations with any Egyptian Government except on the basis of that government's rejection of the Camp David agreements and their results, taking into consideration that relations with Egypt are not relations with a person or persons but depend mainly on the Egyptian Government's stand on the Arabs' national cause in Palestine.

The draft resolution renews the Arab nation's hope that the Egyptian Government will completely relinquish its previous policies and their consequences and not deal with Arab-Zionist struggle affairs separately in a way that would harm the Arab nation. The draft resolution voiced the hope that the Egyptian Government would rejoin the joint Arab action ranks and restore its natural position in the one Arab line.

KING HUSAYN INTERVIEWED ON FES SUMMIT DELAY

JN022012 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1813 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Interview with King Husayn by PETRA-JNA in Amman -- date not specified; read by announcer]

[Text] [Question] Do you think, Your Majesty, that the Fes summit conference marks, as the world media has said, a setback to the Arab stand and the joint Arab effort?

[Answer] I do not agree with such opinions at all. What happened, unfortunately, is that some Arab leaders did not attend the summit conference. Thus, these leaders are responsible for the consequences of postponing the meeting of the 12th Arab summit conference.

The Arab leaders agreed during the Amman summit conference that participation in Arab summit conferences should not be at less than the head of state level for any Arab state. They also agreed that if the head of state fails to attend for an urgent reason, then the second most responsible personality should represent this state at the summit conference, since he should enjoy full legal and constitutional power to make decisions or to contribute to the drafting of decisions instead of being tied to readymade instructions that he cannot change at the summit conference; for it is assumed that a summit is a chance to draw up a unanimous Arab policy following responsible and frank study and debate.

Unfortunately, despite the seriousness of the issues on the agenda of the Fes summit conference and their impact on the present and future of Arab causes, some prominent Arab leaders did not attend. Accordingly, the meeting was postponed to a date to be agreed upon later. From my point of view, I believe what happened was sound, because a summit meeting should indeed be at the highest level. The serious challenges facing the Arab nation and threatening the Arab identity, existence and future do not allow neglience or leniency on the issue of the joint planning that we must face these challenges and threats with.

[Question] Some circles believe that the Saudi initiative to bring peace to the Middle East failed in light of the postponement of the meetings of the 12th Arab summit conference, particularly following its being said that Saudi Arabia had withdrawn its initiative.

[Answer] This is not an accurate conclusion. Saudi Arabia requested the withdrawal of its initiative from the summit agenda because it was offended by the campaign of defamation and distortion launched against it by some Arab foreign ministers during their meeting prior to the Fes summit conference. It was natural that Saudi Arabia should be offended by this unjust campaign, which came not only from our enemies but also from our brothers. It is fair to recall here that Saudi Arabia has never failed to back all Arabs under all circumstances and conditions.

Moreover, the Saudi initiative does not go beyond the resolutions of the UN Security Council and the Arab summit conferences, for the term "just peace" was included in the Baghdad summit conference's resolutions. [sentence as heard]

On the other hand, our whole world -- East and West, as well as all states -- demands that, to bring peace, Israel must withdraw from all occupied Arab territories, including the Arab city of Jerusalem, and recognize the full rights of the Palestinian Arab people on their national soil, their right to freely determine their own future after the demolishing of occupation and their right to establish their own independent state on their own land under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has asserted all this in its initiative, adding that Arab Jerusalem should be the capital of the Palestinian state. This is in addition to the fact that Moscow, Washington and all the countries in the world are stressing the need to recognize and guarantee the right of all states in the area to live in peace and safety when peace is established.

The need for an Arab initiative which is supported by the nation and which is acceptable to the world prompted fraternal Saudi Arabia to propose its initiative. This initiative remained an Arab initiative on the agenda of the 12th Arab summit and was supported by most of the Arab countries which had approved it. These countries will work to propose it to the whole world.

[Question] How do you believe the Arab summits should handle the challenges facing the nation?

[Answer] With frankness, fraternal discussions, reason and sincere affiliation to the nation, placing its interest above all other considerations at the summit level. But to shake hands with your right hand and conceal a knife in the left in order to stab your brother is rejected and unacceptable under all circumstances, not only because it deepens doubt and increases a lack of confidence but also because it has no basis in Arab ethics. If any Arab leader has anything against his brother, he must air this at the summit meeting, motivated by eagerness to preserve Arab solidarity and by loyalty to our Arab nation, so that matters can be discussed frankly, clearly and openmindedly. This method is bound to bridge any gap that might arise and be used by our enemies to disintegrate and divide the nation.

The situation in the Arab homeland has reached a point where some Arab countries support our enemies against our brothers in the Iraqi-Iranian war. This is an abnormal phenomena and should under no circumstances continue if we are to be faithful to our future generations and sincere to our proud affiliation with our nation. Hence, we insist on the fact that Arab summits should be held also at summit level in terms of responsibility, commitments and representation.

Let me seize this opportunity to record my most heartfelt thanks to my brother His Majesty King Hassan II and to his noble Arab Muslim country for their hospitality and warm reception. Also, I must point out the wisdom, valor, sincerity and farsightedness which were demonstrated by his majesty in handling this Arab meeting. I am fully confident that this meeting will be preparatory to a good meeting to be held soon in fraternal Morocco.

TIMES WARNS OF U.S. CONTRADICTORY POLICIES

JN030918 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 3 Dec p 4

[Editorial: "Say it Ain't So, Dean"]

[Text] One has to respect the American Government's determination and persistence in its constant struggle against the real world. We can better understand the great things about the United States -- for example, the technical brilliance of the space shuttle or the humanitarian brilliance of the American system of constitutional law -- when we pinpoint Washington's ability to swim against the currents of reality and history. Two days ago, the spokesman for the United States State Department, Mr Dean Fischer, said that "there does not seem to us to be anything contradictory about entering into an agreement like this (the strategic cooperation agreement with Israel) while at the same time pursuing our other interests with the Arab countries in the region."

This is an extraordinary statement made by equally extraordinary minds. The fact is that there is a powerful contradiction between American "strategic" ties with Israel and American efforts to develop bilateral or multilateral security arrangements with assorted Arab states. The contradictions are leading to pressures building up within the Arab world that may well lead to a series of terrible internal explosions (a la Iran), assassinations (a la Sadat), violence (a la Syria) or anarchy (a la Lebanon). The American policy in the area, combined with some equally contradictory indigenous forces, is promoting frustration and bitterness in the masses and leaderships of the Arab world that may soon result in horrible upheaval that will make mincemeat of everybody's efforts to develop stable societies based on rational socio-economic development and a genuine sense of fulfilled nationalism. If the Americans honestly feel there is no contradiction between their policies with Israel and the Arabs, then they are either more naive or more sinister than we had ever thought. In either case, the Middle East has great cause for concern.

U.S. ENVOY HABIB ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL MEETINGS

JN031009 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Philip Habib, the U.S. President's Middle East envoy, arrived in Amman this morning on a short visit to Jordan during which he will meet with several senior officials and discuss the latest developments in the Middle East.

The U.S. envoy's visit to Amman falls within the context of his mission in several states in the region.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES SOVIET ENVOY

JN021347 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim received in his office this morning roving Soviet Ambassador Mikhail Sytenko who is currently touring the region. Friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Jordan were discussed during the meeting. The two sides also reviewed various aspects of the Middle East issue.

Al-Qasim explained to the Soviet envoy the firm Jordanian stand concerning the achievement of a just peace in the region based on complete Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory occupied in 1967, Jerusalem's return to Arab sovereignty and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establish an independent state on their own soil. The meeting was attended by the Soviet ambassador in Amman.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD, HABIB DISCUSS LEBANON

JN021650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] This afternoon, President Hafiz al-Asad received Philip Habib, enovy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister; Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary for Nesr Eastern affairs; and the U.S. ambassador in Damascus.

The discussion focused on the situation in Lebanon and on efforts for achieving national accord in Lebanon.

During the meeting, Philip Habib delivered to President Hafiz al-Asad a written message from President Ronald Reagan containing his condolences and those of the U.S. people on the victims of the Damascus massacre.

SECURITY OFFICIAL ISSUES STATEMENT ON BOMBING

JN021303 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Excerpts] A responsible security source has stated the following: With the help of the brother citizens and after scores of telephone calls from citizens, the security organs have managed to identify the criminal who perpetrated the Damascus massacre. The criminal is Yasin ibn Muhammad Sarij. He was born in 1962 in Al-Fahhamah, Mawqif at-Tali' area of Damascus. On 29 November 1981 he perpetrated his heinous crime in Al-Azbakiyah quarter of Damascus and met his inevitable fate, the fate of traitors and mercenaries.

The responsible security source adds that all the elements who had organizational relations with the criminal were arrested, which is why the announcement of this statement has been delayed. The security source concluded the statement by thanking the brother citizens for their national sentiments, alertness and awareness which helped identify the criminal.

Death Toll Rises

JN021324 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 2 Dec (SANA) -- SANA has learned that the number of victims of the Damascus massacre has risen from 64 to 81. This is because some of the victims had sustained fatal injuries before their arrival at the hospitals and the medical care given by the specialized health organs were of no avail.

Masses Condemn 'Massacre'

JN021212 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] In a mammoth popular march in the capital today, the masses expressed their great indignation and strong condemnation of the Damascus massacre which was perpetrated by Israel's agents, the so-called Muslim Brotherhood gang -- gang of treachery, killing and treason -- whose victims were scores of innocent citizens, women, children and old people.

The popular march set out at 0900 today from the site of the crime in the Al-Azbakiyah region and marched toward the headquarters of the two commands of the Damascus branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, which organized this angry march.

The march was headed by the comrade members of the party's National and Regional Commands and the members of the Progressive National Front's central command. The marchers hoisted pictures of President Hafiz al-Asad and hundreds of posters condemning the crimes of the Muslim Brotherhood gangs, agents of Israel and instrument of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

The marchers stopped at the guest palace square, where Comrade 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, delivered the Ba'th Party speech. He stressed that the crimes of the murderous criminal conspirators will only increase solidity, steadfastness and determination to continue struggle until victory.

He said that conspiracy and collusion have no place in our steadfast homeland and that nothing but national unity will remain in our country. He also stressed that our national unity will be further strengthened and said: Our determination to liberate land is growing stronger and neither terrorism nor plotting will turn us away from our determination.

Speeches from popular organizations and the Progressive National Front as well as a poem were also delivered.

At the end of the mammoth popular march, the masses addressed a cable to President Hafiz al-Asad, denouncing the crime and renewing their pledge to continue the struggle for the sake of achieving national unity, freedom and socialism.

TISHRIN QUESTIONS AIMS OF CAMP DAVID PROCESS

JN021150 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 2 Dec (SANA) -- In a commentary today, TISHRIN says the Camp David process will not end, as Zionists and Americans assert, with Israeli withdrawal from Sinai in April and the stationing there of Europeans with the approval of the United States and Israel.

The important part of the Camp David process on which Israel and the United States pin hopes is not withdrawal from Sinai but pushing the Egyptian-Israeli normalization process forward, even as far as an alliance under a U.S. umbrella.

The paper adds: Most Arabs expect a breakthrough from America after April; in other words, after the date set for the alleged Israeli withdrawal from Sinai. This is nothing but a blatent falsehood, a big lie and a silly assumption. Only the United States and Israel and their joint plans will benefit from the whole process.

The paper asks: Does Philip Habib have a mission to carry out during his tour? Does Alexander Haig's coming tour have an aim other than than exhausting the patience of the people in the region who are boiling with anger and rising against a humiliating reality?

The paper also asks: Will the Americans and Zionists leave this period of calm and patience without attempting to resume and implement their exposed plans to irrevocably suppress the rising and boiling anger of the people of the region?

TISHRIN concludes: There is one alternative to this confrontation: a comprehensive studied rebuilding, an Arab uprising, and an Arab decision that will diagnose and remedy the situation and place a rifle in every able hand. True, this is a difficult alternative under the current Arab situation.

KNESSET REJECTS MOTIONS OF NONCONFIDENCE

TA022207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The four motions of nonconfidence in the government which were submitted following the signing of a memorandum of understanding were rejected in the Knesset. The government was supported by 57 coalition members as opposed to 53 opposition members. The two Telem Knesset members abstained. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisra'eli notes that although the coalition managed to remove the motions of nonconfidence from the Knesset's agenda it transpires from the speakers' remarks that a majority of the Knesset members reject the memorandum of understanding, at least in its present form. Representatives from the opposition and National Religious parties have even prepared a private draft resolution that will compel the government to get the Knesset's approval for the memorandum of understanding.

Sharon Knesset Address

TA021742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1615 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon address to the Knesset replying to the motions of nonconfidence on the memorandum on the strategic cooperation signed between Israel and the United States -- live]

[Text] Distinguished speaker, honorable Knesset. First, I would like to say that I have the clear impression that the opposition has summoned all of us on a false alarm by distorting the spirit of the agreement we have signed, its content, its nature and goals. I understand that it is painful, it is difficult to be in the opposition, it hurts, it is hard. After all, after scores of years of no success, along comes a government that signs a peace agreement: It hurts, and it is difficult to swallow such an achievement. I understand this. However, I am pleased that the Cabinet and myself -- as the person in charge of drawing up this agreement on its behalf -- have the opportunity to explain to the people and its representatives the extent of the achievement contained in this agreement for the security and future of the people of Israel. Let the people condemn all those who are prepared, because of impatience and a heavy heart that has not yet healed since the failure in the elections, to eat away at our defense and systematically and viciously undermine the national consensus upon which our national security is founded.

I have the clear impression -- as one could have estimated -- that the opposition to the agreement, or rather the opposition to handling security for the people of Israel through this Cabinet -- which paved the road to peace and accelerated and renewed settlement activity and which has worked to increase our safety -- this opposition purports to explain to the people and its representatives its distorted interpretation of the spirit of the agreement and its content. To that end it has aimed at us, like the sharp point of a spear -- and I heard this over the media -- former generals, would-be politicians, and frustrated jurists who failed even to comprehend the written word. They hoped that this Cabinet would merely be [words indistinct] of their previous deeds. I mean primarily the term "U.S. satellite" coming from people who made far-reaching concessions of oil, territory, and Al-Qunaytirah without getting anything substantive in return except for a glimpse of the banner of the defense umbrella that the United States would give us. These are people who in their distress and because they sometimes panic have appealed to the favors of the United States; people who were prepared to aid the United States in actual combat, not only in deterrence -- and I would suggest that they all take a look at this document that involves deterrence. These are people prepared to give up the territories essential to our existence in Samaria, Judaea and the Gaza district and on the Golan for the vain hope, rife with hypocrisy, of peace and security. I would like to say from this distinguished podium that [Sharon is interrupted by indistinct interjections]

Gentlemen, I am in no hurry. I said once from this podium -- when, again, a similar torrent of shouts was voiced -- at the time the issue at hand was settlement and I said that I am in no hurry and am prepared to stand and wait. While you were shouting, another house was being built, another road was being paved, another pipe was being laid. Here, too, as you are shouting, Israel's security is being bolstered, we have nothing to rush about. If you wish to shout, be my guests. I will say what I have to say, just as this Cabinet will continue to safeguard the security of the people of Israel. We are in no hurry, we have all the time we need. As you are shouting, the process is continuing, and you have nothing to worry about.

Standing on this distinguished rostrum, I say: Put an end to this hypocrisy. Let us together review this essential agreement we signed following the democratic process involved in drawing it up -- and I heard all the descriptions of the Cabinet session held at the [Hadassah] hospital. For months deliberations were held on this issue. The Cabinet elected in 1977 discussed the issue of strategic cooperation with the United States even before it was reelected in the 1981 elections. Innumberable deliberations were held on this subject.

[Indistinct interruption by MK Menahem Kohen]

I think one could have expected the speakers who stood on this rostrum to tell the truth: The agreement was not made in secrecy; it was divided [as heard] by the U.S. Government even before it was signed. The venue of the signing was not a U.S. choice. The ceremony was to have been held in the Pentagon. The United States believed that we would accept some of their positions; but we did not, and the debate continued and stretched over 5 hours. There was absolutely no point waiting there even longer. We asked that the ceremony be held where it was, and it was definitely at an honorable site. But I know that it hurts that someone else reaches an agreement. It hurts, but you will have to become accustomed to this pain, apparently for many more years to come. For many more years you will prbably have to bear that pain.

Let us examine this agreement closely so that, ultimately, in the atmosphere of urgency, gloom, inaction and the fears that people here have been trying to imprint on us for the past few months, a real ray of sunlight will still shine out. Perhaps the feeling of our national self-respect, which we so desperately lack, will increase, perhaps by little. If we only had a bit of the respect others have for us, we would have looked different -- only a little bit of the respect others feel toward us. The self-belittling we have been feeling is acting against us.

Maybe a hope for the future will still arise. Perhaps the people's self-confidence will grow as will their faith in their Cabinet, which is laying down before it a concrete, sure path in the midst of surroundings rife with real dangers to our existence and safety.

Let me therefore first of all make clear what this agreement contributes to us: First, the agreement establishes a firm and broad point of departure for a process of strategic cooperation that has two partners, this cooperation being essential for each partner's national security.

The first partner is Israel, fighting now for 25 years against Soviet arms, Soviet political aid and Soviet involvement that has spurred the Arab confrontation with Israel and provided it with the means to maintain a momentum of war, brought about wars and often prevented us from obtaining a clear cut result in war that might have created a different basis for the peace process. [indistinct interruption by MK Ge'ula Kohen]

Israel must take all the necessary measures to deter the Soviet Union from endangering Israel's existence in a direct or indirect manner or by interceding alongside with Arab countries, should they force a war upon Israel.

The second partner -- the United States -- has approved this agreement. This agreement will no doubt constitute a central rung in its strategic deployment [interrupted by indistinct interjection by MK Goldstein] to deter the Soviet Union from endangering the entire region -- which includes Israel as well.

Secondly, the agreement does not state in detail the activities that should be carried out as part of the cooperation. A coordinating committee and joint working groups will be set up to do this. They will decide on the spheres of operation, the activities and the priorities -- and all these require our agreement. I can promise the Knesset and the people of Israel that our consent will be guided solely by one principle: the needs stemming from defending Israel's existence in an independent fashion and through independent strategy. If war is forced upon us, or if any type of operational dispute of any scope is forced upon us, we will not deploy the IDF or prepare it for a war or combat that is not related to the defense of Israel's existence and security. What the agreement does provide us with is the description of the spheres of cooperation, and this is what the working groups will deal with, and from those Israel will select only what is vital for its security. These spheres encompass everything we wanted in the military sphere, in the economic sphere and in the political sphere.

Thirdly, the agreement provides answers to a circle of confrontation that endangers Israel's existence and demands strategic cooperation with the United States in order to combat it, and that is the circle of the Soviet threat.

What kind of hypocrisy is it on the part of former chiefs of staff to shape their political aspirations through specifying the area of threat to Israel's existence. Has the circle of threats to Israel's very existence to date involved only Arab forces? Would any sensible person [interrupted by indistinct interjections by MK Suissa] who examines the Soviet trends of expansion in the past decade, and those trends we can expect in the current decade, imagine that the dangers to Israel's existence come from threats by only Arab forces? Have extremist Arab countries such as Iraq, Syria, Libya, the Republic of South Yemen and the PLO's murderers' organization, which still desire and hope to destroy Israel -- not been using aid -- in military and political terms -- from the Soviet Union in order to develop the ability and the hope to destroy Israel.

In the eventuality that we are again attacked by Arab countries [indistinct interjection by MK Bar-Zohar] should we not take into account the possibility of Soviet military intervention; or of Soviet-controlled forces fighting alongside with them or in order to save them from a military and political defeat -- as the Soviets did in past wars? Did the IDF not pull back from the Sinai in the Sinai campaign as a result of a threat that Soviet forces would interfere from the outside? Did we not stop our advance [indistinct interjection by MK Ge'uls Kohen] in the Yom Kippur war, thus not totally wiping out the Egyptian Army, as a result of Soviet forces having concentrated in countries under its control, but which are outside the region? Who are you trying to fool? The people of Israel who has paid price for it?

Is there no limit and no end to your impudence? Should Israel not gradually be incorporated in the regional scene, in which the United States is deploying to block the Soviet Union from endangering the existence of the countries of the region -- Israel included? Only such a setup can, with time, create a basis for joint regional strategic and economic constellation among us and our neighbors. Are we any different from any other free country in the world striving to be incorpoarted in a regional security framework in order to confront threats by a superpower like the Soviet Union by adopting deterrent measures? It makes no difference whether the name Soviet Union is specifically stated in the agreement or if it says "in the face of communism." It is one and the same thing.

Had the Arab confrontation with us not existed, and had we had a state of peace with our neighbors, would we not have striven to create together with them and the United States a strategic framework to block the dangers presented by the Soviet Union to the entire region?

The spirit of the agreement provides appropriate answers to all these problems. According to this agreement, we will continue to independently bear the brunt of our defense in the face of the Arab confrontation states. According to this agreement, we have a partner in deterring the Soviet Union and forces under its control from exploiting the Arab confrontation to take over the region with the help of the confrontation countries -- and, as an extension, also endangering Israel's existence -- and all the more so in a war waged by the confrontation states. This agreement stipulates that we, like any other free country located near the front confrontation line, will deploy in order to strengthen the ability to fight against dangers of all sorts and all scopes, including the one presented by the Soviet Union. This is why this agreement contributes substantially to Israel's security and can provide the people of Israel with confidence that it would be able to defend its existence in the most serious situations that may be created in the future.

Now I would like in a few sentences to explain to the Knesset and the people of Israel exactly what we signed -- which in our opinion is a central security asset for Israel's safety, economy and future. First, the agreement stipulates that the framework of defense relations between Israel and the United States will in the future be based on strategic cooperation, on the basis of mutuality. I would like to emphasize that reciprocity constitutes a principle that is manifest in all the basic components of the agreement. Instead of a fabric of relations based on lobbying -- at times humilitating lobbying resulting from bartering over defense aid requirements -- we will have a framework of strategic cooperation in areas where one contributes toward the other's national security.

Secondly, the agreement is for cooperation for the sake of deterrence, not an agreement on cooperation at times of war. I would advise our exceptionally gifted experts on agreements to persue the preamble to the agreement. Instead of standing here charging us with things it is preferable to spend 5 minutes in the library and read it. It would be worth while to study it.

That is why what results from the agreement are activities and preparations that strengthen deterrence, not something linked with a joint combat setup. We have no joint unified forces with the United States, like NATO, but we have preparations connected with the economic infrastructure and the deployment of equipment, with intelligence and joint maneuvers. These are activities that should deter -- as far as we are concerned -- the Soviet Union and its allies, to tell them that they do not have freedom of action to endanger our existence, directly or indirectly and with the help of every conceivable alliance of wartime coalitions. For the United States, it should provide a recognition of the fact that the Soviet Union is deterred and should make it realize that there is no vacuum in the region in which to activate either its own forces or forces operating under its auspicies in order to continue to take over the area of parts of it.

Since the agreement is aimed at deterrence rather than war, there is no need to conceal the holy name of the threatener. All those who, out of extraordinary familiarity waved their banners, had better read some of the agreements and see that the actual name of the Soviet Union is not mentioned, but that the agreement nevertheless explicitly says it is against communism.

[Indistinct interjection by Prof Yuval Ne'eman]

Professor Ne'eman, since I really consider you to be an educated man, I would advise you to read it, seeing that you stated unequivocally here that the Soviet Union is not mentioned. [sentence as heard] I would advise you to take a look, say, at the agreement between Taiwan and the United States, just as an example.

There are other examples, too, do not fret. Since the agreement is aimed at deterrence rather than at war, there is no need to conceal the holy name of the threatener, and there is not much point reminding a formerly important general that the deterrence is founded also on a political ties anchored in a strategic agreement as well as on military preparations and on an economic-military basis.

Thirdly, the agreement transfers the focus of what should be done to a framework of negotiations through military and civilian working groups directed and activated by a joint consultative council of the U.S. secretary of defense and the Israeli defense minister. This is a procedure borrowed from accepted defense agreement.

I promise you with all honesty that only one consideration will guide our agreement to participate in practical spheres and directions, and that is what is required for Israel to defend its existence independently and with the help of the IDF. That is why we decided on a policy for cooperation in areas we will have to specify for operative plans pertaining to military cooperation, advance preparations for the infrastructure, military trade and other economic infrastructures, as well as for cooperation in research and development.

Can anyone imagine that all those details should and can be included in an open document? Is there any such case in the world where there is an open agreement detailing the number of tanks stored or the quantity of ammunition, or specifying the type of intelligence cooperation or infrastructure involved? Why all this hypocritical confused hurrying? What did you specify in the 1975 agreement with the United States, MK Rabin? And what did you manage to obtain in return for the handing over of Al-Qunaytirah, MK Gur? This is not an agreement for the press. It is an agreement to guarantee the ability to exist and I suggest that all of you go to the library and compare this agreement -- it will do you no harm, gentlemen, and you have time -- to well-based agreements between the United States and its allies, and you will see that this agreement surpasses them in the precision of its formulation, in its content and foundations. This agreement has created a process of putting an end to the presumptiousness of the Arab countries and the PLO's murderers' organizations in believing that the Soviet Union will, in time, guarantee the fulfillment of their aspirations to annihilate Israel. The agreement similarly opens before us a wide, varied range of activities for expanding our military and economic ties with countries fearing the Soviet Union and its satellites in Africa and Asia. This way we will expand and bolster Israel's national security belt, and you shall hear much about this.

So it is worthwhile even now to prepare the next cry of havoc as well as the future atmosphere of gloom and emergency. Nothing will help us: We will push forward, and you will remain in the back, mourning. And not -- God forbid -- mourning over the grief of the nation. This will not be. You will be mourning your orphanhood, your grief and your own solitude.

Finally, I would like to address the people of Israel, which this time too -- and I hope in future as well -- gave us the mandate to lead this wonderful country. Just a few direct words to dispel the feeling of gloom and fear, and so that the people become secure and confident, not harking those who are capable of even harming the national consensus on security matters and would do anything to regain rule. I would like to tell the people and its representatives that we have indeed made a most substantial change in our status on the world map, in our status among the free nations, in the future of our security and political ties, in the direction we will be able to move in developing security and peace agreements in the region and in our ability to defend our existence, the integrity and security of Eretz Yisra'el.

Abba Eban Speech

TA021643 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Alignment MK Abba Eban speech in the Knesset debate of the four motions of nonconfidence submitted against the government for signing the strategic memorandum of understanding with the United States--live]

[Text] [intercepted in progress] ...The U.S. secretary of state apparently does not recognize its existence. There is another secret inherent in yet another secret -- and perhaps the defense minister whom we welcome back will decipher this double secret for us. It was reported from the defense minister's circles, and there is no denial of this, that there is a secret agreement besides the signed agreement. The U.S. administration spokesmen say that the secret agreement of Minister Sharon is so secret they do not know anything about it. Let us say that it never really existed.

Mr Speaker, I protest in the name of dozens of Knesset members of a disrupted process of decisionmaking which is a more sensitive and grave matter than any specific fault in the version of the discussed agreement. I am not sure we will hear much about this agreement when the storm subsides. However, the question as to how the Israeli Government makes fateful decisions will continue to accompany us always and cause a daily increasing chagrin. If I am asked whether I do not rely on the unique, restrained and balanced reasoning of Minister Sharon and his famous consensual [last word in English] personality, my answer is that Minister Sharon's honor is where it should be but that the Knesset's honor is also there and transcends the status of any one minister.

Why do you in the government deprive the opposition, the Knesset and the people their rights of supervision, control and advice when you secured previous agreements with our initiative and support. Mr Speaker, our distrust of the government is clear and open to all and is based on a large number of bones of contention and contradictory conceptions. However, we have chosen this parliamentary move today only because you denied us the more correct procedure, namely, you should have on your own initiative submitted the document for scrutiny and resolution and we would then have explained our reservations and required a vote. The fact that you denied this natural process -- I do not understand why -- adds to the rest of the reasons for our nonconfidence.

Sirs, Knesset members, the Alignment has always upheld close and ever closer cooperation with the United States on security matters. Even before the term strategic cooperation was born agreements had been formulated, signed and implemented on our initiative. These agreements resulted in ample quantities of arms and sophisticated equipment, aid in the building of an infrastructure, the exchange of advice and a blessed flow of economic aid intended for security purposes. There have also been vital occasions of deterrence against the possible intervention of a superpower. In 1967, 1973 and in 1970, there was an Israeli deployment for deterrence purposes with unreserved U.S. backing against the chance of the occupation of a neighboring country, Jordan, by Syria. The Israeli cause always was foiling a threat to Israel's security. It was thus that a tradition was consolidated and a huge system of security ties with the United States was built, mostly under the alignment governments.

If he had grounds to believe that you Cabinet members were following the conventional, accepted route that yielded such great results in the past, we would have wished both you and ourselves success. Our criticism today does not hinge specifically on the principle of strategic cooperation -- we do not question the principle -- nor specifically on the term "memorandum of understanding", since we have in fact signed a "memorandum of agreement." Our criticism hinges on several touch points where we see a sharp deviation from the accepted, productive, tested and logical route.

It is exactly because most of our security ties with the United States have been a success that we demand renewed loyalty to the basic principles that enabled us to strengthen our status while you have induced a far-reaching change in the national security conception of the State of Israel.

First point: All the countries that have signed agreements with the United States have without exception avoided specifying the Soviet Union as an opponent, as an enemy, as an object for blame and condemnation. Everybody knows the purpose of the North Atlantic Treaty, for example, and this holds true concerning other pacts and treaties. However, provocative rhetoric was always avoided. The signatories did not want to inflame spirits and increase tension more than necessary. They did not want to give up hope of developing relations with the Soviet Union different from those that led them to sign the treaties. They saw no reason to be encumbered with negative mentions that might eventually disappear. This is how all international agreements are formulated in terms of principles, generality and not dependent on a specific situation at a certain point in time. They never clearly condemn any power. Is it only Israel, Israel of all nations, that has an interest in deviating from such universal retraints and loudly declares: Lo and behold, our deployment is against the Soviet Union.

Knesset members, I have not forgotten the occasion of severing relations with the Soviet Union on 10 June, 1981 [year as heard]. However, it is exactly on that occasion, there and then, that I expressed to the Soviet representative a hope that these relations would one day resume. The defense minister declares -- what is the fuss about? After all the Soviet Union has adopted a line of hostility toward us for 25 years now. Yes, but there are boundaries and limits even to this hostility. There is no dispute between Israel and the Soviet Union about the sovereignty and national identity of the State of Israel. There is a dispute pertaining to Soviet policy and Israeli policy. There is a dialogue now for clarifying the contradictory viewpoints. There are also vital, most human and unique affairs connected with Israeli-Soviet relations.

In the 1975 memorandum of agreement the United States undertook to stand by Israel's side with advice and aid against a threat to Israel by a world power. Why did you not settle, in the body of this document, for this terminology? After all, a world power does not mean an Arab country. It is doubtful whether even Saudi Arabia is a world power following the recent summit [in Fes]. Why did you want reference to the Soviet Union of all countries? Was it not possible to replace this reference with the term a world power of forces under its control? It is one thing to view our relations with the Soviet Union in a sober, realistic and disillusioned manner and another to introduce a novelty in international terminology, an unprecedented novelty, in order to enhance the feeling of confrontation. It is vanity to claim that it was the United States that wanted this emphasis. The United States only wanted to make it clear that the talk at this point is not, God forbid, on United States' identification with Israel against Arab countries. However, the terminology used in the 1975 agreement would have satisfied it without any reservations. In addition, in negotiations on a document it is possible and allowed to dispute U.S. formulations and definitions.

When the U.S. Government announced that it was vital to send AWACS and F-16's to Saudi Arabia -- did we rise and express agreement or submission to this? The prime minister fully lauded the strong opposition in the United States to the U.S. administration move, opposition which received expression in the U.S. Congress. I have the impression that the present Israeli Government takes an enthusiastic, positive view of firm opposition in any Free World country except Israel. There it is a duty to talk and to warn while here the duty is to keep quiet and agree.

Knesset members, there was talk of a hope that the memorandum of understanding would be so impressive in content as to elicit the wonder and admiration of all world nations and as a result boost Israel's status throughout the world.

However, along with every opportunity we also have a risk lest the content be so detached and questionable as to have the opposite result. The defense minister was aware of this possibility to such a degree as to explain, 2 days prior to his trip to the United States, why he was opposed to the trip and to the proposed agreement. I do not believe that the opposition must not adopt today a position that the defense minister adopted just last Sunday.

I am not disappointed because the U.S. Government, as expected, refused to involve itself in a few demonstrative, operational plans discussed in Israel, the defense minister once said that Israel is a large aircraft carrier. This is not a definition acceptable to us. However, also the points contained in the agreement constitute, in part, a substantive change in Israeli policy, without getting anything in return, without compensation. I am now quoting the clause concerned: The general objective of the memorandum is to supply one another with military aid for the operation of both sides' forces in the region that may be required to meet that threat [by the Soviet Union presumably]. In other words, Israel has undertaken to provide military aid to the United States for the operations of U.S. forces in the region, and it was not explained that what is discussed is of operations concerning Israel's security only.

Can the defense minister claim there is no novelty here? If there is not novelty then the whole agreement becomes a banal repetition of self-evident matters. In fact, there is an agreement here to hold consultations on security matters with the only novelties being the two points I have noted -- Israel's declared standing against the Soviet Union and the Israeli commitment to extend military aid to the United States in a Soviet context and not necessarily in the context of Israel's security. And, if it is said that the United States has undertaken to extend military aid to Israel in this context, we should know that the U.S. signatories on this memorandum have no authority to move even a single U.S. soldier without the U.S. Congress' approval.

In May 1967, President Johnson told me -- when it was very urgent for us to clarify the U.S. position in the event of an Arab offensive -- that he was not worth a nickle to the Congress. Since then there has been a change in the nickle's value and there has been an amendment to the U.S. law that further increases the U.S. President's dependency on congressional resolutions. People like me and some of my colleagues who have expressed themselves in the communications media, people who have invested much effort for long years in building the system of relations with the United States, are convinced that the road toward further strengthening this system is the continued momentum of solidifying existing principles and moves, without the two novelties I have noted.

Some say though there is value to the very term itself -- strategic cooperation -- well, I would like to warn against such humbug. We are sufficiently spoiled with frameworks and titles. Suppose I said to a Knesset member -- what would you say if we could reach a document entitled, for instance, an agreement for mutual military aid, military defense assistance agreement [last four words in English]? You would have said, this is impossible. I should inform you that in 1953 we signed a mutual defense assistance agreement [last four words in English], with the title not making any difference. That framework was a framework for nothing in the way of military assistance for many years. Eventually it turned into a framework for the abundance we started knowing after 1967 and more so after 1973. The title, surely, does not mean a thing.

It is true that the United States also committed itself to this anti-Soviet expression. However, after this anti-Soviet rhetoric, the U.S. Government will conduct negotiations with the Soviet Union on limiting the arms race and other agreements to lessen international tension.

Israel, on the other hand, remains only with the anti-Soviet phrasing, without any other context of talks in which to soften the phrasing. It is important, Knesset members, that the people show that the U.S. backing for Israel's security is a vital and precious matter but in this sphere the government this time has not received any addition beyond the ceremonious and important commitment given in 1975.

In two clauses of the agreement Israel and the United States take care to stress that this agreement does not have any possible implications for the real danger lurking for Israel, the danger or regional conflagration, an attack by an Arab country. The United States continues to emphasize that the agreement does not pertain to even such a case as an Arab country acting as a missionary of the Soviet Union. The agreement speaks of forces carrying out the Soviet Union's mission only when they are injected into the region from outside -- that is, only Cubans, North Koreans and the like.

I would like to make it clear that the Alignment is not proposing that we demand of the United States a commitment that the United States would not give anyway, to aid us militarily, with soldiers, against a neighboring country. However, I do not view as an impressive achievement the defense minister's success in leading the U.S. Government to such an emphatic announcement as follows: You know that we are deploying with you against North Koreans. If you have a conflict with Arab countries themselves from tip to toe -- you should know that we will keep aside from it. The uniqueness of our responsibility for defense of the State of Israel is well known and I neither question nor regret it. However, when your closest friend tells you every half hour, "do not rely on me regarding the real danger but only regarding a North Korean danger," it is difficult to determine Israel's status in this region and in the real world.

If the government had been required to deal with regular decisionmaking processes, it is possible, Mr Speaker, that most of us would have reached a different but unified stance on behalf of a document that would have been acceptable to us. You have decided to extricate yourselves from us, to extricate yourselves from our accepted security tradition, to sail into unnecessary novelties and you have thus naturally prevented any chance of harmony. A proof of this, a proof of what happens when a unified stance is reached -- the backing for the Camp David agreements, the support for the peace treaty, the joint stand against plans that undermine UN Resolution 242 and the Camp David process, the appearance [as heard] of the Sinai multinational force -- we have no difficulty arriving at moves that render harmony possible.

I favor acceptance of the arrangement made between the foreign minister and the U.S. Secretary of State regarding the Sinai multinational force. There is no deviation from any tradition, from any lore, from any accepted custom. However, it is precisely on this memorandum question, which is more sensitive than all the others, that the government's handling was rash, unstable and aimless.

I would like to end Mr Speaker by explaining the logic underlying the motion of nonconfidence. The test of policy is not only in the content of single move but in the scale of priorities in everything pertaining to Israeli-U.S. relations. In everything pertaining to the relations between Israel and the United States we reject the government's perception of priorities. We get an immediate anti-Soviet declaration -- is it impossible even to wait for 2 days? Is there no time to print the document, since the autonomy talks are postponed for another few weeks? We can see after an important round of talks that cannot be repeated -- the prime minister's and the defense minister's visit to the United States -- what a poor and meagre harvest you have reaped. There are no clarifications or real conclusions on current issues -- do you have a memorandum of understanding on the interpretation of the Camp David accords?

On the situation of peace with Egypt, if it becomes clear that this is a separate peace without any progress on the Palestinian issue? Do you have an agreement with the United States on the deteriorating situation in Lebanon? Did you present to the United States your interpretation of the Camp David agreement as a full autonomy ending with an annexation of all territories, contrary to what is written, to what is agreed in the Camp David accord? Do you have an agreement regarding the Saudi role in the peace process? Is there a convincing agreement whereby the United States will continue to oppose the erosion of the Camp David accords and UN Resolution 242. In other words, the dispute between us and the government does not only touch on the special context of the memorandum of understanding, whose importance you have so exaggerated. The dispute revolves around the fact that we have different and opposing conceptions regarding early and late; main points versus secondary, unimportant ones; urgent and less urgent matters; serious content versus flashy form and shape. If, as expected, you find today that half or nearly half the Knesset is divided with you regarding your path, your priorities and your indifference, who knows, maybe the government will pause and at least explore other routes.

Rabin, Arnes, Melamed Speak

TA021847 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] In the continuation of the Knesset debate of the strategic memorandum with the United States former Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said he fears that this memorandum will detract from the memorandum signed with Washington 6 years ago with the disengagement agreements. In the present version of the strategic memorandum the United States is not obliged to aid Israel against the Arabs as had been agreed to up to now. The novelties in the agreement -- Mr Rabin said -- calls into question our international status. He described several possibilities in which the IDF would have to act, such as an attack on Saudi Arabia by the Cubans or a Soviet attempt to quell a prowestern revolution in Iraq.

MK Moshe Arens said that in the preamble to the memorandum it is emphasized that Israel undertook to act only for its national security and not for any other goal. Arens elaborated on the Soviet danger and stressed that during the war of attrition the Israeli Air Force pilots fought against Soviet pilots and that in the Yom Kippur war it was possible that the Soviet Union would intervene.

MK Avraham Melamed of the National Religious Party [NRP] said he totally rejects the agreement. He believes that if only the agreement were submitted for voting and that it were not a motion of nonconfidence, there would have been no Knesset majority to approve it. According to Melamed, at least one additional NRP member does not support the agreement. European countries belonging to NATO today want to slow the armament race and want a dialogue with the Soviets and a status of less close identification, while postmemorandum Israel is marching exactly in the opposite direction, Melamed said.

SHAMIR INTERVIEW ON COOPERATION AGREEMENT, MFO

TA022143 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir interviewed in the studio by political correspondent Elimelekh Ram, reporter Yoram Ronen and moderator Ya'aqov Ahime'ir on the weekly Moqed Program -- live]

[Excerpt] [Ahime'ir] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. The Knesset debate on the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation signed between Israel and the United States will conclude in the next few hours. Many issues pertaining to this memorandum have not yet been resolved, and many questions still remain open.

Our guest tonight is Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Good evening, sir.

[Answer] Good evening.

[Question] I presume, Mr Shamir, that your being here does not jeopardize the slim majority the government has in the Knesset?

[Answer] I already told you that although I am physically here, my heart is in the Knesset.

[Question] Are you not paired off [with another absent Knesset member for the opposition]?

[Answer] No, I am not.

[Question] Mr Shamir, perhaps first we will turn to those examples cited this evening by MK Yitzhaq Rabin in his speech on the memorandum of understanding. Supposing a pro-Soviet coup d'etat takes place in Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union therefore moves Cuban forces from Ethiopia into Saudi Arabia. Will Israeli forces have to rush to aid the Saudis and save King Khalid's regime?

[Answer] I would not enter into a debate on such imaginative examples.

[Question] Why not?

[Answer] I must say that our political life is full of surprises. I have never imagined that if Israel should at any point in time reach a memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation with the United States, Yitzhaq Rabin and his party would express objection to this move, which their entire policy throughout the years of their rule and their entire political activity in the United States and all of their political information in the United States were directed at obtaining something like it and in persuading the U.S. Government and the U.S. public that the Israeli and U.S. interest were the same. And now, when the day comes there is a certain official expression of that identity of interests, a cry of havoc is being raised.

[Question] Is this example so far from reality?

[Answer] Certainly, certainly, because what are the interests we share with the United States founded upon? What are the joint interests we have with the United States? Are they not curbing and preventing a Soviet takeover of the Middle East? Is this not the joint interest? Is there something else?

[Question] But, sir, if this is the joint interest, can you conceive of a possibility where a government in Israel would dispatch armed forces to, say, Jiddah and after such a war, what would the defense minister, for instance tell the bereaved parents?

[Answer] Who is talking about sending the army?

[Question] So what is it all about?

[Answer] This is strategic coopeation, preparations, planning, stationing of armed forces, consultations, cooperation in research and development. Who is talking about sending troops? There is a council. In accordance with that memorandum, a U.S.-Israeli council will be established in which things will be discussed and consultations held, where various situations will be examined, possible solutions will be reviewed, and then each government will decide on its course.

[Question] Sir, in the eventuality of war, would this treaty not bind Israel to come out in the aid...

[Answer, interrupting] It is no treaty. We have not reached a defense pact with the United States. It is no military treaty, it is a memorandum of understanding on cooperation to a certain extent which, if we only succeed in filling with content, will be a blessing and increase our power as well as bolster our standing in the United States. Why all the cries, for heaven's sake?

[Question] Mr Shamir, if the dispatching of troops -- the IDF -- against the Soviets and their satellites is not at issue, why the frequent mention of the Soviet danger and joint Israeli-U.S. activity against this danger?

[Answer] Really, all this talk about this mention of the Soviet Union has been much exaggerated. In NATO, for example, the Soviet Union is not mentioned, but does anyone have doubt as to against whom the missiles are being stationed in Europe, those missiles over which there is such a dispute today? Moreover, when the Soviet Union signs a friendship treaty with Syria or Iraq, writing explicity that the parties will fight against racial Zionism -- does it calm us that the name of Israel is not mentioned, but that rather racial Zionism is mentioned because Syria and Iraq do not want to state Israel's name specifically? So if the Soviet Union is allowed to do this, are we not?

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, it seems to me that it was yourself who during the Cabinet session expressed reservations about explicitly mentioning the Soviet Union in the memorandum of understanding?

[Answer] That is precisely what I said: I am against exaggerating in mentioning it and am also against exaggerating in objection to this mention. One can live without it, but it does not change the nature of the matter: our cooperation with the United States. Moreover, the joint Israeli-U.S. interests are based exclusively on the prevention of Soviet takeover of the Middle East. There is nothing else, nothing besides this element. This is what we have heard all these years. What did Mr Rabin discuss with Nixon when he asked him for aid to Israel? What does one discuss with Senator Jackson: not these same common interests and against Soviet hegemony? So why the objections and the shouting?

[Question] Still, you yourself, Mr Shamir, were surprised -- if one is to believe the press reports -- when former Foreign Minister Abba Eban told you that the current memorandum of understanding is the only agreement that explicitly mentions the Soviet Union, unlike those in NATO...

[Answer, interrupting] I was not surprised. Look, I respect MK Abba Eban -- at least I did to this date. He came to me to request information, which I gave him. Among other things, he said that there are -- the very day he came to me he examined some 43 treaties the United States had signed and found no mention of the Soviet Union. I told him: Really? Does this mean I was surprised? But this is not what counts, had we said something else, the "communist country," or "the enemy from the East", or "the totalitarian force" -- would we have been fooling anyone? We saw, for example, how the Soviet Union reacted to this agreement. Did you hear it? It was not dismayed by the fact that we mentioned the name of the Soviet Union; it said that it is an agreement and military steps against the Arab countries. This is their line. Nothing has changed in their attitude toward us.

[Question] Mr Shamir, I would like to understand whether our enemy is the Soviet Union and not the radical Arab countries?

[Answer] The enemy is the one who wants to harm us, endanger our existence. I would like to see the Soviet Union as a friend, I wish I could. But at present it is acting against us in an extreme fasion, in a poignant manner. It is not even maintaining normal ties with us -- such diplomatic ties as it has with the most anti-communist countries. So, we are interested in having them not take over the area. Gentlemen, when did the greatest concern to Israel's security arise here? You remember this: you are younger than me, but still you recall: before 1956, when the Soviet-Egyptian arms deal -- the first deal with Egypt -- was made, when the Soviet Union penetrated the region.

Then we started to be worried. That is when the apprehension began, as a result of which the Sinai campaign came. All our wars came because of the Soviet Union, so why be so surprised that we want to prevent its intervention and weaken its hold on the region?

[Question] Still, you may perhaps be at the head of a camp -- if one can call it a camp -- that works toward improving relations with the Soviet Union, or seeks to do so. Do you not think that such a memorandum of understanding will endanger all these efforts?

[Answer] I have not given up on this hope of improving relations with the Soviet Union. I would like to tell you that I hope that this memorandum may help me.

[Question] How?

[Answer] It will help me in this.

[Question] On what are you basing this, Mr Shamir?

[Answer] On the fact that the Soviet Union takes fact into account. The Soviet Union pays heed to the elements that operate in the area that have a certain power, that can decide things, and change things in certain areas. The Soviet Union has attacked us throughout the years, and has taken action against us -- admittedly, through other elements, but also directly. We have all those years avoided doing anything against it. Perhaps this time it will see that it should also pay attention to Israel.

[Question] Mr Shamir, I would like to understand something: Does the Cabinet now believe that in view of the memorandum of understanding signed between Israel and the United States there are now greater chances of resuming ties with the Soviet Union?

[Answer] My friend, this is not at issue. The memorandum of understanding was reached in order to strengthen cooperation with the United States. But since you ask me about the Soviet Union, I am saying that it will not harm our relations with the Soviet Union.

[Question] And this may be a by-product of the agreement?

[Answer] Maybe, maybe, I am not ruling this possibility out.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, how do you think this memorandum will affect the Aliyah [Jewish immigration] activists in the Soviet Union?

[Answer] I am sure they are happy about it. All these years we have had to restrain their zeal for expressing themselves against the Soviet Union. But, gentlemen, what has this to do with Aliyah? Even when we had diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union not one Jew came out of there. When we had the best relations with the Soviet Union -- when Golda was ambassador there -- not one single Jew left the Soviet Union. What has this to do with immigration?

[Question] Mr Shamir, perhaps we could move to another issue. Not too long ago the United States held a joint maneuver with Egypt in the western desert. That exercise was carried out without there having been any strategic agreement or memorandum of understanding between the United States and Egypt. Here, on the other hand, is a memorandum of understanding, a strategic agreement, but still it seems to me that we are very distant from holding such joint exercises like the U.S.-Egyptian one?

[Answer] If you recall, one of the articles of this memorandum stipulates that there will be joint maneuvers.

[Question] In the air and on the sea?

[Answer] Maneuvers. Interestingly enough, when the U.S. and Egyptian Army hold maneuvers, this is lamented in Israel and people complain about it: look, there is strategic cooperation between Egypt and the United States.

[Question, interrupting] Without a memorandum of understanding?

[Answer] Egypt is taking Israel's place as the number one ally in the Middle East, and when we get closer to this cooperation and we too have maneuvers, when we sign a memorandum on cooperation, cries of protest are heard. Where is the logic here?

[Question] Do you mean to say that there will be joint Israeli-U.S. maneuvers in the style of the U.S.-Egyptian exercise?

[Answer] I do not know, this has to be discussed. In principle, it was agreed that there would be joint exercises.

[Question] How then do you explain the fact that at least outwardly -- or so it seems -- the United States is so ashamed of this agreement, if I may use this phrasing. This agreement was hardly photographed, it was not signed in the Pentagon, but in the National Geographic Building -- which in itself is a nice building in Washington. Why has all this been done with such a low profile, with perhaps a touch of shame and modesty?

[Answer] It is clear and well known that the United States has all sorts of interests in the region. It has joint interests with us, it has an interest in maintaining good relations with the Arab countries and it must always -- and always tries -- to maintain a certain balance between those interests and its various commitments: at times more and at times less, occasionally our side gains the upper hand, sometimes someone else. However, the main thing is that through this memorandum we have increased the cooperation, and as anyone familiar with such things well knows that cooperation will increase our power and bring about good things in the realm of defense, it will bolster our power and will tighten the real ties between us and the United States. That is the main thing.

[Question] Sir, to follow up on the previous question. The impression is that the Government of Israel has been attributing to this agreement an almost historic value whereas the U.S. media -- and everyone knows that this is at the behest of the administration -- greatly downplays the significance of this agreement. Why?

[Answer] I have already explained this.

[Question] Where does the truth lie?

[Answer] I have explained this: the United States has various interests: it wants to maintain good relations with Saudi Arabia, it wants to have good ties with Egypt...

[Question, interrupting] And wants to have good ties with Israel.

[Answer] With Israel, too.

[Question] The question then is why it is giving this such a low profile?

[Answer] Low profile, nonsense. It is saying: We will cooperate, we have signed a memorandum of understanding but we will not shout this in the streets. I am not justifying this behaviour, but I can understand it and I maintain that it does not change the main thing -- that our defense and political power is strengthened. Let us not forget the political impact such a move carries.

When I was last in the United States after the prime minister's visit to Washington and after a decision in principle was made to reach such a memorandum of understanding and it was published in the newspapers that indeed strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel would begin, when I left Washington and went on a visit to some Latin American countries and returned to the United States where I held many meetings with foreign ministers -- the impression this created, the impact of this event that lo and behold, Israel is cooperating with the United States to the extent of reaching an agreement on strategic cooperation -- this impression was with me throughout all my meetings. It could be felt: the respect felt for us, the account people took of us -- all these increased. I could feel this from all the representatives from all parts of the world. I could sense with every move I took that there was great political value to this agreement. This is of no less significance than its military value.

[Question] Mr Shamir, how do you account for the fact that such an important agreement -- in your own view and not only in your opinion -- was made at the Cabinet in a hasty debate, and that the ministers hardly had time to study it before the session?

[Answer] Look, there are various aspects. The fact is that many deliberations took place even in the previous Cabinet in the ministerial Committee for Security Affairs when that committee existed. There were discussions in limited groups. Today there is some disruption in the Cabinet's functioning because a ministerial Committee for Security Affairs has not yet been set up. The prime minister was very close to establishing one before his recent accident. The moment such a committee is established, there will no longer be problems of this sort. There will be official deliberations and decisions will be made in accordance with the normal routine that the prime minister has always observed.

[Question] But you realize that the discussion of such an important issue was so hasty? Incidentally, according to publicized reports, the ministers could only review one copy and in a foreign language to boot?

[Answer] They saw it. The fact of the matter is that there was a certain urgency, because of certain circumstances. If we had not decicded on it that very day, it could have been postponed for a long period of time. These days, when so many changes occur, it is difficult to predict what will happen if you postpone something you are interested in. At any rate, I can assure you that this document, this memorandum, received the consent of the entire Cabinet.

[Question] Mr Shamir, it seems to me there is a question to which a final, definitive answer has not yet been given: Does this document, this memorandum of understanding, have any secret appendix that we do not know about, or that the U.S. Congress does not know about?

[Answer] I know nothing about a secret appendix.

[Question] In other words, what has been published is all there is.

[Answer] Precisely.

[Question] Mr Shamir, in view of the signing of the memorandum of understanding between us and the United States, what can one expect of Philip Habib's mission on the Syrian missiles. He is due here in 2 days, if I am not mistaken.

Can he still be considered a mediator after the Syrian president had said that in effect the United States has lost its status as mediator when it signed a strategic pact with us?

[Answer] I will only be able to answer you after I meet with Philip Habib in the next few days and after I hear from him what he has been told in those countries he visited, what he told them, and then we will know whether he will continue his mediation mission, if there is any hope for this mission.

[Question] Is there any chance that he might terminate his mediation mission?

[Answer] Anything is possible.

[Question] One more question, on the subject of the memorandum of understanding between Israel and the United States: speaking at the Knesset today, the defense minister compared this agreement to the one between the United States and Taiwan because that agreement also mentions the Soviet Union by name. What do you think about this comparison?

[Answer] From what I heard, he did not actually compare them. Someone must have told him that one of the agreements...

[Question, interrupting] He mentioned the United States and Taiwan.

[Answer] One way or the other, I must say that Taiwan is a country like all countries, it is an important country, but one should not overestimate the significance of this entire matter of mentioning the name of the Soviet Union. Really, everone knows that, beginning with the abortive Baghdad pact, that stillborn treaty, CENTO, SEATO and NATO -- all of these treaties were directed against the Soviet Union and everyone knew it.

[Question] And now we have joined that camp?

[Answer] Did it make any difference whether it stated that it was directed at the Soviet Union? Did it make any difference at all? It did not change a thing.

[Question] Still what was glaring was the comparison between this memorandum and the U.S. Taiwanese treaty. We all know what that treaty amounted to ultimately.

[Answer] But this is not a treaty. I do not know, I do not think it has any significance whatsoever as far as the matter at hand is concerned.

[Question] With your permission, I would like to go on to another matter: It seems to me that tomorrow the Cabinet will hold an extraordinary session to approve an arrangement by which the European countries will, despite everything, be allowed to participate in the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers [MFO]. Will the joint Israeli-U.S. announcement cause the four European countries that are considered as candidates for participation in the force to revoke their adherence to the Venice resolution, about which you expressed such reservations?

[Answer] In fact, we are not demanding that any country change its policy. We are not asking the European countries to turn their backs today on the Venice resolution they passed. Rather, we are demanding that anyone who wants to participate in the MFO recognize and approve the fact that the establishment of this force is founded on the Camp David accords, on the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt and on the agreement -- or, as it is called, the minutes -- on the establishment of the force, signed between Israel and Egypt with the United States as witness.

He must recognize it and act according to these documents and present no preconditions for his fulfilling his role in this force on things we do not recognize and even oppose.

[Question] Sir, on this issue, too -- if you will permit me -- the Cabinet debate -- and ministers have even expressed themselves in this spirit both in the session and after it -- was very hasty. So was your rushed trip to Washington and your return from there within 24 hours. This raised several questions as to whether this was so urgent.

[Answer] My trip was really made on very short notice, but I did not have to consult the Cabinet on it. I was invited by the secretary of state, and he asked me to come urgently because he was interested in it, and the United States was interested in it. He really asked that we help him in it. To tell the truth, I regret, first of all, one aspect of the journey: that I was forced to return on the Sabbath and desecrate it and this was given such publicity. I am not in the habit of doing this. I really am sorry about it, but at the time we thought this was necessary, and this is why I did it.

After I returned, carrying some suggestions, we convened the Cabinet and no hasty debate was held; there was absolutely no time limit. We sat for several hours and if anyone had asked that we discuss this for a few more hours, we would have continued. The fact remains that we did not conclude the debate then. We are continuing it tomorrow. If need be, we will continue it on another day as well. I do not agree that there was anything hasty about this debate; it was thorough and all the pertinent documents were given to the Cabinet members. I do not think there is room for any complaint on this.

[Question] Were those documents presented to the Cabinet members for the first time on Monday?

[Answer] Well, there was no time; I left and immediately returned on Saturday evening. By the time we had it typed and examined it, it was necessary to convene the Cabinet. We presented it to the Cabinet members and made sure that it was not published before it is agreed upon. It was to be published with U.S. and Israeli consent. All the Cabinet members had sufficient time to study the document. And it is a fact that we will continue the debate tomorrow as well.

[Question] In other words, the way you described it in at least two instances the Cabinet members learned about documents and resolutions at almost the last minute. The same applies to the memorandum of understanding, which was published in a foreign language 1 hour prior to the Cabinet session, just as it does to the issue of the MFO?

[Answer] But I said exactly the opposite: On this issue of the MFO we brought the document at the soonest possible date. We presented it to the Cabinet members, and had even one Cabinet member said that he needed another day or two or more to review it and to discuss it, we would have agreed. After all, we have not yet concluded this affair. There was no rush at all.

[Question] Is there no fear of leaks? Perhaps that was the cause of the hastiness?

[Answer] There is always the fear of leaks, we know the reality we live in. To my great satisfaction, this time there were no leaks, and we will continue the debate as called for.

HA'ARETZ: MEMORANDUM CONTAINS SECRET SECTION

TA020942 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] According to informed sources, the Israeli-U.S. memorandum on strategic cooperation contains a secret section in which the United States undertakes, among other obligations, to purchase specified quantities of Israeli goods and to store U.S. equipment -- not necessarily medical equipment -- in Israel.

These sources say that the secret section also asserts that Israel has the right, in accordance with the UN Charter, to defend its security by any legitimate means.

The sources also say that the memorandum's secret section was drawn up because the United States did not wish to have these topics included in the official document -- this then was in line with its aim of according the memorandum a limited character. The sources maintain that the U.S. administration is feeding the media in the United States tendentious information designed to minimize the memorandum's worth.

It was also learned yesterday evening that the U.S. draft proposal for the memorandum mentioned the Soviet Union eight times, while Israel demanded that the name of the Soviet superpower not appear at all. The United States insisted that the name be mentioned explicitly in order to prove to the Arab world that the Israeli-U.S. cooperation was designed to oppose Moscow and not the Arab states. Finally, a compromise was worked out whereby the Soviet Union is mentioned twice at the outset of the document, while the other clauses speak of "the abovementioned threat."

The prime minister's office said yesterday that Mr Begin is satisfied with the strategic memorandum, viewing it as an important achievement for Israel. This reporter has learned that Mr Begin rejects the arguments against mentioning the Soviet Union in the memorandum, believing that the poor relations between Israel and the Soviet Union have not come about at Israel's initiative but because of Moscow's desire. All the attempts by Israel to effect a rapprochment with the Soviet Union and to restore their deteriorated relations, have proved unsuccessful.

Israel, in Mr Begin's view, is not ashamed to be listed among the countries of the free world, whose survival and security are being threatened by the Soviet Union. In the prime minister's view, the Soviet Union is in every instance hostile toward Israel and is in fact working in every way -- other than open war -- to endanger Israel's existence. Because of the strategic memorandum, Moscow will now show greater caution in its harassment of Israel.

Likud sources yesterday evening added to the prime minister's stance that it is not the Likud government that is responsible for the current state of relations between Israel and the Soviet Union, but the Alignment governments. When the Likud assumed power, it found Israel in a specific state of relations with the United States which has now been given a new and open image by the strategic memorandum.

The prime minister will meet today with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, who will give him details of his talks in Washington.

CABINET APPROVES AMENDED DECLARATION ON MFO

TA030910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] This morning the Cabinet approved the amended draft of the joint declaration of the European countries in the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO]. The declaration will be delivered to the foreign ministers of the four countries prepared to participate in the MFO and they will be asked to announce that they have agreed to the principles detailed in it.

Today's cabinet session was the third this week dealing with the matter of the joint declaration and it lasted for less than an hour.

HAIG TO VISIT 13 DEC, HABIB ADVANCES ARRIVAL

TA021950 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig will arrive in Israel on Sunday, 13 December, and will remain here for only a few hours. He will meet with Prime Minister Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Haig's visit will be in the framework of a tour the U.S. secretary of state will make in Europe and Israel will serve as a stopover.

Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports that U.S. envoy Philip Habib will advance his arrival in Israel and will be here on Friday, 4 December.

POSSIBLE RENEWED AFRICAN RELATIONS REPORTED

TA030624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] In this morning's newscast we heard the remarks by the president of Zaire, Sese Seto Mobutu. We will repeat the remarks because of the refreshing innovation in them: I am prepared to renew Zaire's relations with Israel at once, Mobutu said, but I would prefer to wait a little while and coordinate my moves with some other African countries. Those were the remarks and, in order to study their significance, we have asked our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, to come to the studio:

[Schiffer] Good morning. From the little we can say this morning about those remarks, we should say that Jerusalem was not surprised by Mobutu's declaration. As will be recalled, it has recently been publicized in the international media that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon visited several African countries a few weeks ago, including Zaire and Gabon. Before that, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir held talks in the UN Assembly in New York with the foreign ministers of those countries. Moreover, President Mobutu was seen in the company of the defense minister a few days ago, when he went to the U.S. Pentagon. After leaving his meeting with Casper Weinberger, Sharon met with Mobutu, who was waiting. The two shook hands and one could see that they were not meeting after a long separation, but had met recently.

[Announcer] Did they then hold a talk?

[Schiffer] Not a talk, but they shook hands and exchanged a few words, and those witnessing that meeting formed the impression that the two men had met only a few days previously. We should say that Mobutu's visit to Washington and the results of his talks there have a direct link with the publicity abroad about the defense minister's visit to several African countries. There is no doubt that there is a change in Israel's relations with several of the African countries -- change being made within those countries -- and we cannot go into more detail about this. There are Israeli representatives; there are commercial relations, there is also a change in the wake of the alterations occurring in France following President Mitterrand's rise to power, because he supports the renewal of relations between the pro-French African countries and Israel. The prime minister hinted about this several times in the past and it seems that President Mobutu is the first to confirm this. But I do not think that we will witness a renewal of the relations in the near future because of the difficulties hinted at by President Mobutu.

[Announcer] There is no doubt that Israel would be interested in implementing all this more formally. The African countries, perhaps, are also interested, but they are hesitating. You say that we will still have to wait for some time unti we see matters...

[Schiffer, interrupting] It appears to me that we will have to wait further, despite the fact that we are hearing more and more over international media about cooperation between Israel and various African countries, but from there to a renewal of the diplomatic relations is still a long way.

OAU CONDEMNS ATTACK ON ANGOLAN REFINERIES

EA021728 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countires 1530 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The OAU today strongly condemned the criminal attack on the oil refinery installations in Angola by mercenaries recruited by racist South Africa.

In a message to President Jose dos Santos of Angola, the OAU acting secretary general, Mr Peter Onu, expressed the deep concern of the OAU over the blatant act carried out by a bunch of mercenaries recruited and financed by Pretoria. The message noted that the attack was designed to sabotage and cripple the economy of Angola and destabilize the country.

Dr Onu reiterated the OAU's firm stand and solidarity with the people and Government of Angola in their commitment to the attainment of genuine independence in Namibia.

MOI ASKS SOUTH AFRICA TO HAND OVER MERCENARIES

EA021756 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The current chairman of the OAU, His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi, today sent a message to the South African prime minister expressing grave concern at the recent abortive coup attempt by South African nationals in the Seychelles. President Moi also requested the South African premier to hand over the criminals to the Seychelles Government for appropriate trial.

President Moi noted in his message that the mercenaries fled to Durban in disarray after they were defeated. He said that it was clear that the menace of mercenaries in the southern African region is spreading, adding that as chairman of the OAU he had to express deep concern over the menace. The message finally said that refusal by the South African Government to hand over these criminals would be tantamount to admission of South African involvement in the conspiracy.

OAU SECRETARY GENERAL ON CHAD, FES SUMMIT

AB022127 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo arrived in Ouagadougou early this afternoon. He was greeted by Lt Col Charles Bambara, minister of posts and telecommunications, acting as minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

The OAU secretary general was received in audience this afternoon by the head of state, Col Saye Zerbo. Minister Charles Bamabara and the secretary general in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Michel Compaore, were present at the audience. After the audience Edem Kodjo was interviewed by Emmanuel Iibo.

[Begin recording] [Edem Kodjo] First of all, you know that President Saye Zerbo is a personal friend of mine. We have been friends for many years. We worked together in the past and I think much of President Saye Zerbo. We have, of course, examined a large number of issues. This is why the audience was long. We discussed most current African issues. I wanted to listen to the president's views and to receive his suggestions and advice on all the questions in order to draw maximum benefit from them, which would help me in my mission as OAU secretary general.

[Question] It was believed that Upper Volta was ready to send a contingent to Chad within the framework of the inter-african neutral force. Did you discuss this issue?

[Answer] We discussed the Chadian issue in general, reviewing all its aspects including the aspect you have just mentioned, that is, the sending of troops. We know Upper Volta's position on this question very well. It is one of the organization's member states which has always supported it -- its objectives. It is a country which has never failed the organization whenever called upon. So, Upper Volta is always ready to support the action if it is called upon. I think your question can find its answer in these remarks. I will say that for the time being, the specific issue remains possibility. Later, we will decide whether to materialize it in view of the developments in Chad.

[Question] As the secretary general of the OAU, you are the right person to define the exact mission of the inter-African force in Chad.

[Answer] The force's mission can easily be defined because resolutions on the force say clearly that the inter-African force must ensure Chad's defense and security in particular in the face of external aggressions. I think this is what must be borne in mind. I believe the framework which has been defined was reaffirmed by the Nairobi summit.

[Question] Do you think this mission will be easy to carry out, particularly in view of the existence of various more or less quarrelsome factions?

[Answer] It will not be an easy mission. I believe that one must bear in mind that the force is going to Chad to maintain peace and to try to consolidate the country's stability and prevent renewed clashes here and there in Chad. I think that Chad needs stability. It is a country that needs assistance and must be again put on sound basis and our mission is to do everything possible to reach these goals. So, the force going to Chad has a well defined mission and it must be hoped that this all will contribute to strengthening that country's stability.

[Question] According to some observers, the countries contributing troops for the force are already wrangling for the command of the force.

[Answer] No. Really no. I think that the question was resolved once and for all at the ministerial meeting in Lagos in mid-November. The command was defined in a collective and global manner: All participating countries have direct responsibility in the conduct of the operations, with a commander in chief, a chief of staff, a chief of operations and chiefs of a certain number of military sectors. I don't think there was any real controversy. There were too many speculations and unfounded rumors about the issue. I don't believe there was a real controversy.

[Question] A last question Excellency, you took part in the recent aborted Arab League at Fes. According to you, what prompted the sudden suspension of the meeting among Arab countries?

[Answer] First of all, I must say -- out of objectivity -- that we did not take part in the debate behind closed doors, after which the summit was suddenly suspended. I can only suspect that participants in the summit did not agree on the central issue: the Fahd peace plan on the Middle East issue and Palestine. Therefore, participants supposedly asked to be given more time to reflect on the problem before meeting again in a few months' time in the same city, Fes, to attempt to thoroughly examine their respective views.

I was present on behalf of the OAU with observer status. I intervened at the opening session. Our position is well-known: It is the position defined by all member countries of the Arab League. If the league maps out a clear common position on the issue, there is no doubt it will be supported by the OAU because it will emerge as the general stance of Arab League member countries. [end recording]

ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIA GREETS PDRY ON INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

EA301844 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Chairman Megistu Haile Mariam has congratulated the people, party and Government of Democratic Yemen on the occasion of their country's 14th independence anniversary.

In a message to the head of state of Democratic Yemen, Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council] chairman, noted that the tripartite treaty between Ethiopia, Democratic Yemen and the Libyan Jamahiriyah provides a framework for all-round cooperation among the three countries. Comrade Chairman Mengistu said that the recent extraordinary meeting in Addis Ababa of the political committee set up by the tripartite treaty, had reaffirmed the commitment of the three countries to safeguard their territorial integrity and revolutions from aggressions perpetrated by US imperialism and its reactionary allies. He assured Comrade 'Ali Nasir that the Government and people of Ethiopia will make every effort to promote and expand the bilateral cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Meanwhile, the ambassador of Democratic Yemen to Ethiopia has described the steadily growing relations between COPWE [Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia] and the Yemeni Socialist Party and the peoples of the two countries as very gratifying and encouraging. Speaking to reporters on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of independence of his country, Comrade Salih Abu Bakr Bin Husayn Husaynin, noted that the treaty between Ethiopia, Democratic Yemen and Libyan Jamahariyah was a strong foundation for cooperation in joint economic and social undertakings and for solidarity in the face of imperialist threats.

REPORTAGE ON GDR PARTY OFFICIAL'S 6-DAY VISIT

Dohlus Arrival Statement

EA232222 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 23 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Horst Dohlus, Politburo member and Central Committee Secretary of the GDR Socialist Unity Party, arrived in Addis Ababa today for a 6-day official friendship visit to socialist Ethiopia. Comrade Dohlus is visiting Ethiopia at the invitation of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia's [COPWE] Central Committee. Upon his arrival in Addis Ababa, Comrade Dohlus was welcomed by Comrade Legese Asfaw, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council's [PMAC] Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member. He also was welcomed by various ministers, members of the COPWE Central Committee, senior government officials, Comrade Guenter Mauersberger, GDR ambassador to socialist Ethiopia and members of the GDR Embassy.

In an arrival statement, Comrade Dohlus noted that his visit would enable him to exchange ideas and experiences in accordance with the basis of relations established between COPWE and the German Socialist Unity Party. He said the exchange of ideas and experiences will further strenghten the anti-imperialist stance of the two political organizations.

During his stay in Ethiopia, Comrade Dohlus will hold talks with members of the COPWE Executive Committee.

24 Nov Talks

EA242106 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 24 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Legese Asfaw, PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council] and COPWE [Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia] Executive Committee member, held talks in Addis Ababa today with Comrade Horst Dohlus, Poitburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of the GDR.

During the talks Comrade Legese said that the working visit of Comrade Dohlus would greatly promote the existing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries. He said that despite many problems the Ethiopian revolution has succeeded in creating COPWE, one of whose major aims is the formation of the party of the working people of Ethiopia.

Speaking on his party, Comrade Dohlus said that the Ethiopian revolution is exemplary to the struggles of oppressed peoples in the world and has attained an important position in the African continent.

25 Nov Meeting

EA251424 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Berhanu Baye, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] Standing Committee and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Executive Committee, held talks today with Comrade Horst Dohlus, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of the GDR.

Speaking to the GDR delegation members, headed by Comrade Horst Dohlus, Comrade Berhanu elaborated on socialist Ethiopia's foreign policy and international and regional situations. Comrade Berhanu noted that socialist Ethiopia will continue with its policy of peaceful coexistence, adding that socialist Ethiopia has strong relations with other friendly socialist countries.

Comrade Berhanu said cooperation with the GDR is being strengthened from day to day in accordance with socialist Ethiopia's policy of having strong relations with socialist countries. He said socialist Ethiopia is making strong efforts to contribute its share to the liberation struggle in Africa based on its close ties with workers parties, liberation movements and progressive forces.

Comrade Berhanu said socialist Ethiopia allowed liberation movements and progressive forces to open offices in Addis Ababa in line with its policy of assisting liberation movements.

For his part, Comrade Horst Dohlus noted that the GDR has strong ties and cooperation with socialist countries, including Ethiopia, adding that his country's relations with Ethiopia in the political, economic and social fields will be further strengthened. He said his present visit will contribute to strengthening relations between the GDR and socialist Ethiopia.

Comrade Dohlus said he was able to understand -- by what he had seen and through briefings -- socialist Ethiopia's victories and struggle waged over the last 7 years.

Honecker Message

EA252146 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, today received a message from Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Supreme Council. At a ceremony at the comrade chairman's COPWE office this afternoon, Comrade Erich Honecker's message was presented to our revolutionary leader by Comrade Horst Dohlus, member of the SED Politburo and secretary of the party's Central Committee.

On the occasion, Comrade Chairman Mengistu held talks with Comrade Dohlus on the friendship and relations between socialist Ethiopia and the GDR and on international issues.

Also present were Comrade Berhanu Baye, member of the PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee; Comrade Legese Asfaw, member of the PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee; and Comrade Guenter Mauersberger, GDR ambassador to Ethiopia.

Meeting With COPWE Officials

EA270447 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Horst Dolhus, member of the Politburo of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and secretary of the party Central Committee, who is currently visiting socialist Ethiopia, today inspected the revolutionary activities of Arsi region in the economic, political and social fields. Comrade Dohlus was accompanied by Comrade Legese Asfaw, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] Standing Committee and member of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia [COPWE] Executive Committee.

Comrade Dohlus visited the families of members of the (Aminya Dapa) [words indistinct] producers cooperative while attending six literacy classes. He also inspected wheat and barley which had been gathered and threshed by the [words indistinct] cooperative members [words indistinct]. The association's chairman and secretary general briefed Comrade Dohlus on the formation of the association and its present development level.

When Comrade Dohlus presented himself at the hall of the service cooperative, which includes members of the Peasants Association of the 10 localities in (Iteya) area, Comrade (Feye Arshe), chairman of the service cooperative, explained in detail the services being rendered to the members and (?inhabitants) of the area by the cooperative which was formed over 5 years ago.

When he went to the regional COPWE office in the afternoon, Comrade Dohlus listened to a briefing by Comrade Sileshi Mengesha, member of the COPWE Central Committee and COPWE's regional representative, on the physical features and economy of Arsi region.

After having exchanged gifts with Comrade Sileshi Mengesha, Comrade Dohlus said the struggle being waged by the Ethiopian masses, which has an international character, to build a socialist system after toppling the brutal feudal regime is a source of pride and encouragement for their comrades in arms. He also expressed thanks for the comradely reception accorded him.

Earlier, Comrade Dohlus visited the regional offices of the revolutionary Ethiopian Youth Association and the revolutionary Ethiopian Women's Association.

Earlier, when Comrade Dohlus, accompanied by Comrade Legese Asfaw and others, arrived at Awash Melca this morning to visit the region, he was accorded a comradely reception by Comrade Sileshi Mengesha, member of the COPWE Central Committee and COPWE's representative in Arsi region; Comrade Awgichew Kefyalew, member of the COPWE Central Committee and head of COPWE's organizational affairs in the region; COPWE's regional Executive Committee members; and representatives of governmental and mass organizations in the region.

28 Nov Round of Talks

EA282102 Addis Ababa Domestic Serv ice in Amharic 1700 GMT 28 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Legese Asfaw, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] Standing Committee and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Executive Committee, and Comrade Horst Dohlus, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED], held their second round of talks this afternoon.

Present at the talks between Comrade Legese and Comrade Horst Dohlus at the office of the COPWE Central Committee were Comrade Dr Alemu Ababe, member of the COPWE Central Committee and first deputy head of COPWE's Department for Organization; Comrade [name indistinct] Belete, member of the COPWE Central Committee and second deputy head of COPWE's Department for Organization; Comrade Girma Newai, member of the COPWE Central Committee and head of the main propaganda and (?reactivation) section of COPWE's Ideological Department; Comrade Tesfaye Tadese, member of the COPWE Central Committee and deputy chief editor of SERTO ADER; Comrade Habte Mariam Siyum, deputy head of COPWE's Foreign Affairs Department; the delegates accompanying Comrade Horst Dohlus; and Comrade Gunter Mauersberger, GDR ambassador to socialist Ethiopia.

29 Nov Departure

EA300008 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Text] Comrade Horst Dohlus, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of the GDR, left Addis Ababa for home last night, concluding 6 days of official visit to socialist Ethiopia.

Comrade Dohlus said on departure that the party, government and the entire people of the GDR were firmly determined to continue their solidarity and support to the Ethiopian people's efforts to build socialism. He said the working masses of the two countries were fighting for solutions to the problems relating to the challenge of building socialism against all attempts by internal and external reactionaries. Comrade Dohlus stated that his visit to Ethiopia had been most fruitful and a source of immense experience.

The GDR official was seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Legese Asfaw, Prov isional Military Administrative Council Standing Committee and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia Executive Committee member.

SEYCHELLES

AIRCRAFT CHARGED WITH VIOLATING AIRSPACE

AB301210 Paris AFP in English 1205 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Victoria, Nov 30 (AFP) -- The armed forces of the Seychelles islands, where a band of mercenaries failed in a bid to topple the government last week, announced today that unknown aircraft had violated the country's airspace during the last two nights. Seychelles People's Defense Forces said the aircraft had circled at high attitude over the main island of Mahe.

The government warned diplomatic missions in Victoria that it would shoot down any planes guilty of further violations. A note on the matter circulated to all diplomatic missions in Victoria by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs says, "The security forces of Seychelles are aware that since the recent aggression against the sovereignty of Seychelles, the airspace of Seychelles has been violated on more than one occasion.

"The ministry wishes to inform the missions that any such further violation will entail the shooting down of all aircraft involved without any prior warning," the note said.

Referring to the provisions of the ICAO convention on international civil aviation, the note said that strict security measures were being taken in relation to any violation in this respect.

Meanwhile, the round-the-clock curfew has once again been lifted for a short period between 8 hours GMT and 12 hours GMT today to allow people to stock up on provisions.

But people were not allowed to go shopping in cars. This is the second time the curfew has been lifted since it was imposed immediately after last Wednesday's attack at the airport.

RENE URGES SOUTH AFRICA TO RETURN MERCENARIES

LD011740 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Excerpt] President Albert Rene of the Seychelles has called on South Africa to return the 44 mercenaries who staged an abortive coup attempt in the Seychelles last week. In a nationwide address broadcast over Radio Seychelles, President Rene said his government would believe South African claim that it had nothing to do with the attack if Pretoria handed over the mercenaries for trial by an international court, appointed by the United Nations. President Rene also said there was evidence that former Seychelles President James Mancham was involved in the attack.

Seeks OAU Help

EA021148 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Victoria -- President Albert Rene of Seychelles has asked the Organization of African Unity, OAU, to back his demand for the extradition by South Africa of the mercenaries who attempted a coup in Seychelles last week. President Rene asked the OAU chairman, President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, for his personal support in securing the return of the 44 mercenaries who hijacked the Indian airliner to Durban after the coup had failed. The South African racist Cabinet has been meeting to consider the demand.

President Rene has already said that the mercenaries would be tried by an international court appointed by the UN if the racist regime handed them over. The Seychelles leader also announced that a blanket curfew, imposed since the attack, would be lifted during the day from tomorrow, to allow people to go and work, but would remain in force from dusk until dawn. The curfew has been lifted for only a few hours on three of the days since the attack, to allow people to stock up with food.

Further Report

AB020756 Paris AFP in English 0721 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Victoria, Seychelles, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Seychellois President Albert Rene appealed yesterday to the chairman of the Organization of African Unity, Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, to back fully his governments demand for South Africa to return for trial in the Seychelles 44 white mercenaries who failed to take over the island state last week. If South Africa pretends that it is innocent in this affair, it must cooperate fully in an international investigating into the background and financing of this criminal venture, he said in a message to Mr Moi.

In a letter to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim Tuesday, the government warned that it would in future shoot down without warning any plane which violated Seychellois airspace.

In Strasbourg, visiting Seychellois Economic Development Minister Maxime Ferrari said that the island's airport would be reopened by the end of the week, enabling more than 1,000 stranded tourists to leave for home. But before that, he told a press conference, steps had to be taken to find the remainder of the mercenaries who were still in the country.

The government's priority was to restore tourism, source of 90 percent of Seychellois foreign earnings, and to repair the airport which he said would cost around two million dollars. The minister said 20 million dollars worth of tourism revenue had been lost since the failed invasion a week ago. He said he had already asked for economic aid from West Germany, from where he arrived here Tuesday. He will go to Brussels today, and then Paris. He will visit Norway and Sweden next week.

MERCENARIES CAPTURED; SOUTH AFRICA 'INVOLVED'

AB021444 Paris AFP in English 1434 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Victoria, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Seychellois security forces have captured five mercenaries involved in last weeks abortive invasion and coup plot, and were hunting for three others, President France Albert Rene said here today.

Foreign journalists were shown two of the captured mercenaries, one of whom said he was to have broadcast a series of prepared tapes over Radio Seychelles if the coup had been successful.

President Rene, who said the situation in the Indian Ocean islands was fully under control, said the mercenaries had planned to strike while he was out of the country, on an official visit to France scheduled for this week.

Once of the prisoners told journalists that he never met the person who hired him, but said he believed former Seychelles President James Mancham -- who was overthrown by Mr Rene in 1977 -- was behind the plot. Government officials supplied a complete list of the names of mercenaries who flew in to the Pointe Larue airport aboard a Royal Swazi Airlines flight one week ago, as well as several who were already waiting in the country.

President Rene said that South Africa's decision to release 39 mercenaries, among the 44 who escaped to Durban aboard a hijacked Air India jet after a battle at Pointe Larue, clearly showed that the South African Government was involved in the foiled coup. But there was no evidence that other goverments were involved, he added.

ANGOLA

ANGOP REPORTS ON COMMUNIQUE ON REFINERY FIRE

AB011148 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 0955 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Luanda, 30 Nov (ANGOP) -- The fierce fire which broke out here early this morning at the Petrangol refinery was an organized act of economic sabotage, said the communique issued to the press in Luanda tonight.

The communique states that the fire was caused by the detonation of very powerful explosives placed at stategic points in the storage area. The material evidence found in the disaster area, the communique adds, namely other explosive material which did not burn, the knapsacks containing various documents, the weapons left on the premises as well as the bodies of several criminals prove that it was organized by international imperialism against the People's Republic of Angola through the racist South African regime.

The fire, which burned between 0000 and 0100 today, began in the fuel storage area and extended to the refinery's cracking plant. Thanks to prompt action by the workers on duty at the refinery, security measures were taken immediately to start fighting the fire and to prevent it from spreading.

Although the proportions and nature of the fire are such that it has not yet been put out completely, according to the communique, the situation is under control because the area of the fire is isolated from the rest of the installations.

In the communique, the Government of the People's Republic of Angola condemns before international public opinion this flagrant violation of our sovereignty and territorial integrity by the racist South African regime which committed this crime against our people by using a group of mercenaries who were infiltrated into our country and whom it trained, armed and guided.

So far as the Angolan Government is concerned, this is part of imperialism's general offensive aimed at destabilizing the country's political and economic situation by this type of action which is supposed to weaken Angolan forces' action in the struggle to drive out the racist invaders.

Minister's Press Conference

EA011144 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Press conference with Energy Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunen with national and foreign correspondents and ambassadors accredited to the People's Republic of Angola on 30 November in Luanda]

[Excerpts] [Begin recording] [Van Dunen] Ambassadors accredited to the People's Republic of Angola [PRA] and [words indistinct] of the press and comrades: On the night of 30 November, 1981, between midnight and 0100, a big fire broke out at the Petrangol refinery installations. It started in the fuels storage section and spread to the first [word indistinct] of the refinery. Prompt action by the workers on duty in the refinery led to the immediate taking of security measures. This helped fight the fire and prevent it from spreading.

Investigations so far enable us now to state that the fire was caused by organized action of economic sabotage perpetrated against our country. The fire was caused by powerful explosive charges placed at strategic points in the storage section. The explosion of these charges caused the serious fire.

Material evidence found at the scene of the incident, particularly unexploded charges, haversacks containing a number of documents, weapons left at the spot and the bodies of a number of criminals, enable us to say that this was a further instance of organized action by international imperialism, through the racist South African regime, against the PRA.

The PRA condemns, before international public opinion, this flagrant violation of our sovereignty and territorial integrity by the South African racist regime.

By using a group of mercenaries infiltrated into our country after being trained, equipped and given orders by them, the racists have perpetrated this crime against our people. This act is part of the general offensive mounted by imperialism against our country to destabilize our political and our economic situation.

By carrying out this type of action in our hinterland, they are trying to weaken our actions on the battlefield to repulse the South African racists who have invaded our fatherland.

Our government calls on the whole nation to strengthen vigilance, as imperialism will continue to unleash actions of this nature aimed at suffocating our revolution through a global strategy of attacks on all fronts. In this action, they will use their (?loyal) servants, namely, the South African racist regime, which is the direct perpetrator of this criminal action.

The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

Another objective of the attackers was to provoke panic among Luanda residents and to cause death and destruction. Yesterday, following the first explosion and the outbreak of fire, there was, indeed, panic among the Petrangol ward residents as they evacuated the area. Naturally, this was a serious matter for those residents.

We are now ready to answer any questions which you may have. [end recording]

[Announcer] The first question was about the consequences of this act of sabotage since it is the only refinery in Angola.

[Begin recording] [Van Dunen] At this moment, we don't have all the details related to the criminal action carried out by imperialism through its lackeys, the South African racists. However, as of now, we can say that the refinery was not destroyed as was intended by the South African racists. The action by the Angolan workers at the refinery prevented the attainment of the goal of this imperialist action. This criminal action mainly affected the storage section of the processed goods, the gas storage section and a store of crude oil awaiting refining. A part of the refinery equipment, of the first phase of the refinery, was also affected. We hope to resume refinery operation as soon as possible to enable it to fulfill its goals. [end recording]

[Announcer] The Belgian ambassador asked about human and material losses from this sabotage act.

[Begin recording] [Van Dunen] As I said earlier, at this time, we are not yet able to estimate all the consequences of this criminal action. This can only be done some time later. However, we can confirm that one of the refinery workers was injured in the leg. There was also one case of asphyxiation. These are the cases we know of up to now. [end recording]

[Announcer] Immediately, another journalist asked whether the group of assassins who started the fire at the Petrangol installation had retreated by sea.

[Begin recording] [Van Dunen] It is difficult to say. They might have used a submarine to carry out this action. We can assume this might have been the case. We cannot confirm it. It is possible. It is possible. As we don't yet have all the facts, we cannot yet confirm they used a submarine. It is possible because imperialism has been fighting our country with unprecedented fury. Imperialists are prepared to use any kind of weapon to attain their ends. As we all know, it is no secret that the South African Republic announced some time ago that if it became necessary, it would use atomic weapons against the PRA. Therefore, we have no doubt that they could use submarines as they have used other equipment of (?mass destruction) against the PRA. We have no doubt that they might use this type of equipment. [end recording]

[Announcer] The same foreign journalist asked whether our country could say how many mercenaries had taken part in this action.

[Begin recording] [Van Dunen] As you know, at this moment, we have insufficient facts. We hope soon to be able to make a concrete assessment, when we have more facts about the situation. [end recording]

UNITA Claims Responsibility

AB011651 Paris AFP in English 1611 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Paris, 1 Dec (AFP) -- Yesterday's attack on Angola's only oil refinery, at Luanda, was carried out with Soviet-made RPG-7 rockets and without any help from foreign forces, the Angolan rebel movement UNITA said in a statement here today.

UNITA -- The Union for the Total Independence of Angola -- claimed sole responsibility for the attack, which reportedly destroyed the refinery's distillation tower and liquefied gas containers.

The statement said that immediately after the attack, at 1 a.m. on Monday, Cuban soldiers cordoned off the whole area and launched massive sweeps against the civilian inhabitants of surburban areas.

The rebel movement appealed to world opinion to try to prevent new summary executions.

(Angolan Energy Minister Pedro van Dunen charged last night that the commando group which carried out the attack arrived by sea, possibly by submarine.)

COMORO ISLANDS

PRESIDENT SENDS SUPPORT MESSAGE TO SEYCHELLES

AB290923 Paris AFP in English 0851 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Text] Moroni, 29 Nov (AFP) -- Comoron President Ahmed Abdallah, who seized power with the aid of mercenaries in 1978, has sent a message of support to President Albert Rene of the Seychelles after the failure of last week's similar coup attempt in the neighbouring Indian Ocean archipelago.

Expressing total solidarity with the Seychellois Government, President Abdallah said: "The Comoros vigorously condemn this aggressions, which it considers a barbarous act, and actively supports the courageous struggle of the Government and people of the Republic of Seychelles to defend the country's independence."

President Abdallah accused the authors of the coup attempt, which involved mercenaries recruited in South Africa, of wanting to increase tension and threaten peace and security in the Indian Ocean at a difficult time. He paid tribute to the fraternal people of the Seychelles who, "thanks to their vigilance and mobilisation, under the wise leadership of their president...were able to foil and repulse the aggressors."

LESOTHO

AFP CORRESPONDENT VIEWS POLITICAL SITUATION

AB241050 Paris AFP in English 1008 GMT 24 Nov 81

[By Herve Guibaud]

[Text] Maseru, 24 Nov (AFP) -- The political methods of Lesothan strongman Chief Leabua Jonathan are becoming increasingly unpopular in the mountainous enclave in the heart of South Africa which he has ruled for 16 years since independence, 11 of them without an election.

In the words of one Western diplomat, a campaign of low level insurgency is now being waged against the government, though it has not yet reached the stage of classical guerrilla warfare.

The regime is reacting to the revival of opposition in a manner which caused one agronomic expert at Thaba-Tseka to say, the political climate is so bad here I feel almost better in South Africa.

At the University of Roma, 30 kilometres (20 miles) from Maseru, opposition students accuse the Youth League of Lesotho and the Student Democratic Front, which back the Basutoland National Party (BNP) government, of creating a climate of terror.

Last week the chairman and vice-chairman of the students representative council at Roma, King Maldi and Mothusi Lekalake, fled to Botswana, although the government said they had been expelled from the country.

Chief Jonathan, who became prime minister in 1966 when the former Basutoland protectorate was granted independence by Britain, cancelled the next elections, alleging irregularities, in 1977 when it looked as if the opposition Basutoland Congress Party (BCP) would win.

The Constitution was suspended and dozens of opponents arrested. Four years later BCP leader Ntsu Mokhelele failed to topple the government by force and fled the country, taking refuge first in Botswana and later in Zambia.

Now a former associate, Justice Minister Gerard Ramorebeli, alleges that Mr. Mokhelele is in South Africa and being supported by the government there in his opposition to Chief Jonathan.

Pretoria is actively aiding the BCP's armed wing, the Lesotho Liberation Army, which has claimed responsibility for most of the recent bomb attacks on public buildings, Mr. Ramorebeli says.

The justice minister heads his own version of the BCP, and says he has had regular contact with a former secretary-general of the old party, Koenyama Chakela, who was amnestied by Chief Jonathan last year, with a view to forming a strong opposition group which would beat both the BNP and Mr. Mokhelele in future elections.

However few people give Mr. Ramorebeli much chance, given his current support for the government, and fewer still see much hope of early elections, despite Chief Jonathan's recent hints that he would like to see voters go to the polls.

Mr. Ramorebeli said there would first have to be negotiations with the various parties on the electoral law, which would need amending. Constituency boundaries would have to be redrawn and electoral rolls brought up to date.

The new information minister, Charles Molapo, who held the foreign affairs portfolio before last July's government reshuffle, said: Elections must be held under peaceful circumstances.

Mr. Molapo also recalled that the current budget, which lasts until April, had made no provision for election spending, and informed circles could not see any poll taking place before 1983 at the earliest.

One Western businessman commented that there was strong anti-BNP feeling in Lesotho, although it was not necessarily pro-BCP. His views were shared by many inhabitants of the country areas, who said they found the present situation intolerable.

One Information Ministry official pointed out that in any case there was no viable legal opposition, and if Mr. Mokhelele did not take part in any elections that might be called, they would be meaningless.

Asked about the recent murders of known government opponents, including church newspaper editor Edgar Motuba, the official said it was obvious that they were the work of a hit squad which supported the government.

Much of the criticism centres on corruption and nepotism within the government, which rules with the support of most local chiefs. Particular targets are the Molapo clan, to which Chief Jonathan and two of his ministers belong, and the current joke in Maseru that the LNDC -- officially the Lesotho National Development Corporation -- actually means Lesotho national development of corruption.

NAMIBIA

POLITICIAN COMMENTS ON REVISED WESTERN PROPOSALS

LD301630 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] The president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] of South-West Africa/Namibia, Mr Peter Kalangula, says his talks with the West German foreign minister, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, were openhearted and reasonable. Addressing a news conference on his return to Windhoek from a 4-day visit to West Germany, Mr Kalangula said Mr Genscher had told him that he was now prepared to meet representatives of all parties in South-West Africa/Namibia. Mr Genscher had also helped to arrange a news conference for the DTA leaders in Bonn which was attended by about 50 newsmen. The DTA representative told Mr Genscher that there were no serious misgivings about the phase one of the revised Western proposals for a constitutional settlement in South-West Africa. Possible difficulties in phase two, however, would center on the matter of impartiality.

SWAPO CLAIMS ATTACKS ON NAMIBIAN INSTALLATIONS

EA242136 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 24 Nov 81

[Text] It was reported from Windhoek, capital of Namibia, today that the combatants of the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, have sabotaged two water pylons [as heard] at Rucana, in northern Namibia and a power station in Windhoek itself. This was announced by the so-called director general for electric and water affairs department of the illegal racist South African administration in Namibia. The sabotage caused irritative delay in the supply of electricity among the white minority settlers.

Meanwhile, Charles Lloyd, the fascist military representative of the racist Pretoria regime in Namibia, yesterday reported that six racist South African soliders were killed in a heavy battle with PLAN forces 53 kilometers from (Ondangwa), where the biggest mechanized racist South African military base is situated. The racist military spokesman said the battle took place after a so-called security forces patrol came across a group of SWAPO freedom fighters and opened fire. Six racist soldiers died on the spot and many others were seriously injured.

PLAN is the military wing of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, of Namibia. It is fighting militarily to liberate Namibia from the fascist South African colonial occupation.

VOICE OF NAMIBIA ON SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY TORTURE

EA231242 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 22 Nov 81

[SWAPO program]

[Excerpts] The genocidal acts of terrorism perpetrated against the innocent civilian population in Namibia by racist South African troops has now taken on shocking proportions.

This orgy of extermination and executions reflects the regime's strategy to physically eliminate not only SWAPO -- the vanguard of the Namibian revolution -- but the Namibian populace as a whole, before it departs with honor in the eyes of its racist supporters over the Orange River.

The entire Namibian territory is today under a state of martial law and the racist so-called defense force is thus given free reign to arrest, imprison or murder Namibians suspected of supporting SWAPO. Because of this situation, thousands of Namibians -- women, men, old and young as well as children -- have disappeared under mysterious circumstances.

All over Namibia today and, especially in the north of the country, torture chambers have been set up as part of a systematic campaign of terror by terrorist Pretoria, to try and break the people's support for SWAPO.

The conditions in these torture chambers are said to be horrible indeed. For example, at the Oshakati torture chamber, there is a separate room for nonpoisonous snakes, where innocent people are being thrown in. There is a room in which there are corpses and one is forced to be there and to share a bed with these corpses. And there is a sort of swimming pool, where people are drowned. Many Namibian patriots have lost their lives under these horrifying circumstances.

(Silas Ndabuka), a Namibian patriot, innocent as he is, experienced the most brutal methods of torture humanity ever experienced, except during the era of fascist, Nazi Hitler. There are hundreds of such cases of brutality perpetrated by the racist terrorist army of South Africa in Namibia against the innocent civilian population of our country.

This is what the racist South African warlords in Pretoria call law and order in the territory. But, in reality does law and order mean killing, torture and harassment of the civilian population? No. The regime we are facing today is obsessed with fascism and is trying everything at its disposal to exterminate the Namibian nation.

The fascist so-called defense minister of the apartheid regime in Pretoria, Magnus Malan, recently told a meeting of the neonazi Broederbond organization: The psychological onslaught against South Africa is the most subtle and potentially the most effective weapon used by our enemies. Members of the South African Defense Force are a special target. One of the favorite methods these days is to question the presence of the defense force in South-West Africa. The question is asked continually why our sons have to offer their lives for a territory to which South Africa could lay no claim at all and which is not part and parcel of the republic. SWAPO, with the aid of the Soviet Union and its proxy forces in Angola, would invade Namibia, should the territory be left to its own devices. South Africa might then be forced to fight within its own borders.

Even though fascist Malan is claiming that his terrorist army is in Namibia to defend or protect the territory against communism or whatever, the young soldiers in South Africa, especially the whites, are against this unjust war which Botha and Malan are waging against the Namibian people.

Within the last 3 years, over 10,000 young South African men refused to serve in the apartheid army, this particularly true in the instance of draft resistance.

This is the situation facing apartheid South Africa today. The young white soldiers -- who are being forced to go and die in Namibia as cannonfodder while the sons of rich fascists like the Botha's and the Malan's are enjoying better lives -- are today revolting against the unjust war which their leaders, the fascists in Pretoria, are waging against the Namibian people and the black majority in South Africa. That is why the regime is now spending billions of rands on recruiting foreign mercenaries to come and defend apartheid for them.

But until when will this situation continue? The liberation struggle waged by the people of Namibia and South Africa under the leadership of SWAPO and ANC will definitely crack this superstitious myth of the Broederbond clique in Pretoria, who think that they will be jubilant forever on the blood and sweat of the black man. Southern Africa definitely won't be the same again.

The struggle continues and victory is certain.

VOICE OF NAMIBIA ON STRUGGLE AGAINST PRETORIA

EA241610 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 23 Nov 81

[Station commentary: "Racist South Africa Threatening Peace and Security in the Southern African Region"]

[Text] The Pretoria racist regime, following the footsteps of Washington, is now openly pursuing a militaristic course in southern Africa. It has been bent on undermining the process of peace, stability, good-neighborliness and mutual understanding among the peoples of the region. The racist bellicosity was openly outlined in public statements made by leading racist warlords in Pretoria and their imperialist godfathers in recent weeks.

Apartheid South Africa is pursuing this hostile and provocative military and political course against neighboring African states that is hardly compatible with normal relations between states. The regime is now engaged in an onslaught against independent neighboring African states such as Angola, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe by not only organizing and training counterrevolutionary reactionary groups to carry out subversive and sabotage activities but also invading them militarily. This hegemonistic ambition of the Boer regime goes with the full blessing of the United States Reagan administration, which is also spearheading the imperialist policy of interference, pressure, brute force and violation of territorial integrity and sovereignty in many parts of the world.

Last Sunday, Magnus Malan, the so-called defense minister of the neonazi fascist Pretoria regime, made a threatening statement against neighboring African states that "South Africa is ready to invade any country neighboring it if such a country 'harbors', terrorist groups hostile to the South African Government." This statement of racist Malan is not novel to us. It has been all along the policy of the apartheid military junta to launch unprovoked military aggressions against its neighbors under the pretext of pursuing freedom fighters of Namibia in South Africa.

But one thing the Boers don't seem to understand is the responsibility of Africa to make sure that the entire continent is free and independent from colonialism, neocolonialism, racial domination, exploitation and imperialist plunders. This is in accordance with the Charter of the OAU which entrusts each member state with the responsibility of working relentlessly for the total emancipation of Africa by rendering all-round support to the national liberation movements recognized by it.

Therefore, the frontline African states Malan is threatening with aggression because of their support for the national liberation movement of Namibia, which is under the colonial occupation of the racist Pretoria regime, which it rules in defiance of the world public opinion, and the one of South Africa fighting to establish a democratic peoples government is not only a threat to the peace and security of the southern African region but the entire African continent. The support for national liberation movements is not a question of debate but a noble task of Africa to crush this bellicose and eradicate its apartheid doctrine from the African soil. [sentences as heard] Definitely Africa will not stand idle while a war of genocide is being waged on its soil and will under no circumstances succumb to the racist and imperialist dictates.

It should be clear to the racist in Pretoria and their supporters in the West that despite all these threats the African frontline states and Africa as a whole will not waver in its determination to support the national liberation movements fighting to liberate their respective countries from white minority domination and exploitation. It is imperative to point out here that racist Pretoria's hostile activities against the neighboring progressive states have now reached dangerous prooortions which are no longer tolerable.

A few months ago, it invaded the People's Republic of Angola and committed all kinds of horrors and destruction claiming to be destroying SWAPO. This was absurd. SWAPO forces do not operate from Angolan towns, hospitals, schools, factories or villages. It operates from within the illegally-occupied Namibian territory which the regime now is using as a springboard to carry out its military aggressions against Angola and Zambia. The thousands of innocent women and children, the marauding racist troops, mercenary cohorts and hired killers butchered in Angola and are still killing were not Namibians, leave alone being SWAPO guerrilla fighters. The Namibian revolution is right inside the territory and not in Angola. Therefore, it is ridicuous for the Boers to justify their onslaught against neighboring African states as a followup operation.

On the other side, it was not long ago when CIA agents were discovered and kicked out of Mozambique and Zambia while busy organizing subversive activities against these two countries. Just a few days ago again, racist South African agents were discovered and rounded up by the Zimbabwean authorities. (?Confronted) with this shameful situation, the regime wants to act now like a wounded buffalo by threatening the frontline states with military agression. But as we pointed out earlier, these rascist bellicose character and hegemonist ambitions of the Boers and all those supporting it will not deter the African majority in Namibia and South Africa itself from intensifying the armed liberation struggle in these two apartheid-infested countries till the total downfall of the apartheid Broederbond monarchy from the face of Africa.

SWAPO of Namibia, the sole authentic representative of the freedom-loving Namibian masses, energetically condemns this unholy war of genocide against the oppressed people of Namibia and South Africa by the Pretoria gangster regime and the use of brute force and naked aggression against the African frontline states.

Botha and Malan just bring to an end their unprovoked war of aggression against these friendly countries and must forthwith withdraw its terrorist army and colonial administration from the Namibian territory. SWAPO wants to remind all those countries and forces, especially the U.S. Reagan administration, that by conspiring with the racist occupationist regime of South Africa in delaying the independence of Namibia, they are just prolonging the suffering of our people and must be ready to face the future consequences.

We call upon all our people in Namibia to be vigilant and united because the regime we are facing today is obsessed with fascism. We must not expect it to terminate its illegal occupation of our country and withdraw voluntarily. It will continue to persist in its campaign of slander and lies against our movement and revolution. It will step up its destabilization activities and aggressions against our neighbors. And finally it will intensify its war of genocide against us. Therefore, fellow countrymen, we must now fight to destroy and uproot once and for all the present system in our country based on unscientific myths of superiority of certain skin pigmentations and the (?present time) privileges of the white racist minority settlers.

Racism and its concomitants of color and segregation must be got rid of to give way for a democratic nonracial society where all the Namibian people are equally enjoying the rights and protection before the law, regardless of their color of skin, place of origin, sex or social background.

From now on, countrymen, we must (?strive) to win. Everything and every effort must be dedicated to the struggle and for victory. In the spirit of our forefathers we say: We will die fighting till every inch of our motherland, Namibia, is free and liberated from minority oppression, racist exploitation and imperialist plunder.

The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

SOUTH AFRICA

CABINET DISCUSSES SEYCHELLES COUP ATTEMPT

LD021132 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The South African Cabinet has discussed the abortive coup in the Seychelles which culminated in the arrest of 44 alleged mercenaries in Durban and has taken certain decisions to be carried out within the next few days. The 44 men are being held in a prison near Pretoria. The South African police minister, Mr Louis Le Grange, said the decisions were taken after he had given a detailed report to the Cabinet. He added that an investigation by the South African police commissioner, General Geldenhuys, and the deputy CID [Criminal Investigation Division] chief, General (Tiesman), had been completed for all practical purposes. A few minor issues still required attention.

South Africa has been accused of involvement in the coup attempt because some of the mercenaries who attacked the Mahe airport in the Seychelles are said to be South Africans. The South African Government has emphatically denied any such involvement.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON RECRUITMENT OF MERCENARIES

LD021140 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The South African defense minister, Gen Magnus Malan, says the possibility of stricter legislation to prevent the recruitment of mercenaries in South Africa and the availability of South African-trained soldiers as mercenaries will be investigated. Speaking in Pretoria, General Malan said he held the view that South African-trained soldiers would not be available for any other purposes than the defense of the country. He was asked to comment on an appeal by the official opposition's chief spokesman on defense, Mr Harry Schwarz, that legislation be introduced to outlaw mercenary recruitment in South Africa.

MIKE HOARE, FOUR OTHERS TO BE TRIED IN JANUARY

LD021146 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Five men, including the legendary mercenary leader 62-year old Col Mike Hoare, appeared in the Pretoria magistrates court today on a charge of kidnapping following last week's abortive coup in the Seychelles and the subsequent hijacking of an Air India Boeing 707. Four of the men are foreign nationals and one is a South African citizen. The five are: Col Michael Bernard Hoare of Natal in South Africa, whose nationality was given as Irish; 40-year old Mr Peter (?Bruce Gay) Duffy, British; 27-year old Mr Charles Glen Goatley of Zimbabwe; 32-year old Mr Kenneth Hugh Dalgleish, British; and 42-year old Mr Tullio Moneta of South Africa. The case was postponed to 7 January and all five were released on bail. Col Hoare's bail was set 10,000 rand -- about $10,300 and the others at 5,000 rand or about $5,150. The South African commissioner of police, Gen Mike Geldenhuys, announced in Pretoria this morning that five men would appear in court. He did not say whether the 39 men allowed to leave the Zonderwater prison had been released conditionally or whether charges were still pending against some or all of them.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE CONGRATULATES SEYCHELLES ON FOILING COUP

CA011020 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, has congratulated the president of the Seychelles on the effective manner in which he defended his country against an ill-advised attempted coup inspired by the Pretoria regime. The prime minister said the latest act of aggression by the South African sponsored mercenaries is yet another proof of the grave threat posed by apartheid and its imperialist supporters to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all independent states within our southern Africa region. He said Zimbabwe unreservedly, strongly condemned this dastardly [word indistinct], act of aggressive interference in the affairs of the Seychelles.